

General Assembly Considering Appropriations of Federal Relief Dollars



The General Assembly is considering a package of amendments to the budget that was enacted in April 2021 in order to appropriate federal relief funding that is being provided to the state through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Virginia received a significant infusion of federal resources through ARPA, and language in the April budget requires the legislature to appropriate the funds (rather than the Governor making decisions as to their use). Virginia's allocation of flexible State Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars totals approximately \$4.3 billion; the state also received \$221.7 million in Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund dollars. In addition to these funding streams, which allow the state to exercise some discretion as to their use, the state is receiving approximately \$5.7 billion in grant funding that is targeted for certain specific purposes (based on a procedure previously established, several distributions of these non-discretionary funds have already been made by the Administration with notice to the legislature, and are accounted for in the special session budget package).

In addition to allocating \$3.1 billion of Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in FY 2022, the proposed budget would set aside approximately \$354 million in planned use of Fiscal Recovery Funds in the 2022-2024 biennium.

The proposed budget would make major investments in areas of importance to counties that were requests of VACo, including broadband, wastewater improvements, school capital needs, and replenishment of the Unemployment Trust Fund. It also includes an important clarification with respect to public employers' longstanding ability to offer compensatory time for overtime work, which was also requested by VACo.

The House has approved the budget proposal in its introduced form, but the Senate adopted several amendments in a lengthy floor debate on Wednesday, August 4. The budget was placed in conference on Thursday, August 5, to resolve differences between the two versions.

VACo will be reporting on the final version of the budget once a conference report is adopted. Key provisions of the package under consideration that are of importance to counties include the following:

Broadband

- Provides \$479 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds and the entire \$221.7 million Capital Projects Fund allocation for broadband access through the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative in FY 2022, for a total investment of \$700.7 million. Language authorizes the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to adjust program criteria to reflect rules and regulations established by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Language requires an annual performance report and specifies elements to be included in the report, to include an evaluation of any projects at risk of incompleteness or underperformance. The Department is also directed to develop a public-facing dashboard to be updated quarterly with information on key performance indicators.
- Provides \$8 million to DHCD in FY 2022 to support the extension of existing broadband networks to low- to moderate-income residents and sets aside \$8 million for the same purpose in the 2022-2024 biennium budget.
- Provides \$500,000 in FY 2022 and sets aside \$1.5 million for the 2022-2024 biennium for legal and real estate transaction support through the Department of General Services for broadband expansion.

Unemployment Trust Fund

- Deposits \$862 million in the Unemployment Trust Fund in FY 2022, and includes language directing the Virginia Employment Commission to compute tax rates for employers for 2022 by excluding pandemic-related claim activity, and limiting employer tax rates for 2022 to rates imposed in 2021. Also provides \$73.6 million to VEC in FY 2022 for information technology improvements and sets aside \$17.6 million in the 2022-2024 biennium budget for the same purpose.

Wastewater and drinking water improvements

- Provides \$100 million in Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in FY 2022 to the Department of Environmental Quality for reimbursements to eligible entities for capital costs incurred for the design and installation of nutrient removal technology in accordance with the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty program, and to reimburse the Town of Pound and the City of Petersburg for certain water facility infrastructure costs.
- Provides \$5.75 million in Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in FY 2022 to the Virginia Department of Health to fund improvements to well and septic systems for homeowners at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level and sets aside the same amount for the same purpose in the 2022-2024 biennium budget.
- Provides \$75 million in Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in FY 2022 to DEQ for septic, straight pipe, and sewer collection system repair, replacement, and upgrades.
- Provides \$125 million in Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in FY 2022 for grants to the Cities of Alexandria, Lynchburg, and Richmond for Combined Sewer Overflow projects (\$50 million for Alexandria, \$25 million for Lynchburg, and \$50 million for Richmond); requires a 100 percent local match.
- Provides \$50 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Virginia Department of Health in FY 2022 to support equal access to drinking water at small and disadvantaged community waterworks; also sets aside \$50 million for the same purpose in the 2022-2024 biennium budget.

Compensatory time for public employees

- Clarifies that public agencies may continue to offer compensatory time in lieu of wages for overtime pay.

Ventilation improvements for schools

- Dedicates \$250 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to qualifying ventilation improvement projects in public schools, with funds to be allocated to local school divisions based on FY 2022 projected March 31 Average Daily Membership, with a minimum allocation of \$200,000 per division, to be paid to school divisions on a reimbursement basis. A local match is required.

Other education funding

- Appropriates the \$1.9 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding that is provided to school divisions, as well as the \$211.1 million in ESSER funding retained by the state Department of Education.
- From the portion of ESSER funds that is retained by the state Department of Education, provides \$3.5 million for private special education day school costs for students with disabilities who received these services during the 2020-2021 school year and opt for an extension to attend school during the 2021-2022 school year.
- From the portion of ESSER funds that is retained by the state Department of Education, provides \$11.5 million for

incentive payments for individuals hired to fill instructional positions between August 15, 2021, and November 15, 2021.

- Appropriates \$67.5 million in Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grants to States funding and \$4.9 million in IDEA Preschool funding.

Public Safety

- As introduced, the budget would provide \$11.1 million in Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in FY 2022 to the Compensation Board for a one-time hazard pay bonus of \$1000 for state-supported sworn officers of sheriffs' departments and regional jails.
- Senate amendment would provide \$66.6 million in Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in FY 2022 for a one-time hazard pay bonus of \$5,000 for state-supported and locally-funded staff of sheriffs' departments and regional jails. Sets aside \$133.2 million to provide a one-time bonus of the same amount in each year of the 2022-2024 biennium. For locally-funded positions, a local match of one-half of the total cost would be required.

Housing

- Appropriates \$465 million in Emergency Rental Assistance funding.
- Appropriates \$39.7 million in HOME Investment Partnerships Program funding
- Includes language limiting landlords from taking action to obtain possession of a rental unit for nonpayment of rent, unless certain conditions are met.

Assistance to businesses, tourism promotion, and economic development

- Provides \$250 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 for the Rebuild VA program, a grant program assisting small businesses and nonprofits. Priority is to be given to qualifying applications received on or before June 30, 2021, for which a grant was not awarded. The Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity is directed to solicit new applications to allocate remaining funds, with priority given to businesses in the hospitality and tourism industry; when awarding funds to restaurants, funds are to be reserved for restaurants that have not received assistance through the Small Business Administration's Restaurant Revitalization Fund or Paycheck Protection Program.
- Provides \$22.5 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to DHCD for the Virginia Removal or Rehabilitation of Derelict Structures Fund program, which makes grants to local governments for acquisition, demolition, removal, rehabilitation, or repair of specific derelict structures. Funds are to be awarded through the Industrial Revitalization Fund process, which leverages local and private resources to achieve market-driven redevelopment of vacant and deteriorated industrial and commercial properties; criteria may be adjusted to reflect Treasury's rules and regulations for the Fiscal Recovery Fund. Sets aside \$22.5 million in the 2022-2024 biennium budget for the same purpose.
- Provides \$4 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to DHCD for the Virginia Main Street Program to provide assistance to businesses recovering from the pandemic, and sets aside the same amount in the biennium budget as well.
- Provides \$50 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to the Virginia Tourism Authority to support local domestic marketing organizations, as well as the Authority's marketing and incentive programs.

Behavioral Health

- Provides \$45 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 for bonuses for direct care staff at state hospitals and training centers. Sets aside \$76.9 million for the 2022-2024 biennium for salary adjustments for direct care staff at state hospitals and training centers.
- Provides \$10 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) for continued expansion of community-based crisis services, which may include mobile crisis services and crisis receiving facilities. Sets aside \$20 million in the 2022-2024 biennium for the continued expansion of these services.
- Provides \$1.2 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 for personal protective equipment at state facilities; sets aside \$1.2 million in the 2022-2024 biennium for the same purpose. Provides \$50 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 for ventilation and water and sewer improvements at state facilities.
- Provides \$5 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 for permanent supportive housing in Northern Virginia.
- Provides \$1.65 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 and sets aside a like amount in FY 2023 to expand a pilot program serving individuals with dementia who are ready for discharge from the state hospitals and who need nursing facility care.

- Provides \$1 million to the Department of Criminal Justice Services for crisis intervention team training for law enforcement offices and dispatchers, and one position to provide technical assistance for the Marcus Alert system. Sets aside \$3 million in the 2022-2024 biennium for the same purpose.
- Provides \$5 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to the Virginia Department of Health for substance misuse and suicide prevention efforts, and \$5 million to DBHDS to expand community-based substance use disorder treatment services. Sets aside like amounts in the 2022-2024 biennium. Provides \$10 million to DBHDS in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to make grants to members of the Virginia Association of Recovery Residences for recovery support services.
- Appropriates \$35.8 million in Mental Health Block Grant funding and \$34 million in Substance Abuse Block Grant funding. Appropriates \$750,000 in federal funding for community-based overdose prevention programs, syringe services programs, and other harm reduction programs. Appropriates \$1.25 million in federal funding for community-based local behavioral health needs.

Elections

- Provides \$1.5 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to the Department of Elections for voter education efforts.
- Provides \$3 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to the Department of Elections to support local efforts to expand early voting to include the adoption of Sunday voting.
- Senate amendment would require absentee ballots to be reported by precinct rather than being reported in the Central Absentee Precinct. This concept was considered during the 2021 Session and the General Assembly directed the convening of a workgroup on the issue to address cost and logistical concerns raised during discussions on the legislation; a report is due November 15.

Electronic meetings

- Authorizes legislative committees (other than a standing General Assembly committee to which bills are referred during a legislative session) and executive branch advisory boards or councils to hold electronic meetings if the meeting is being held solely for information purposes.

Utility assistance

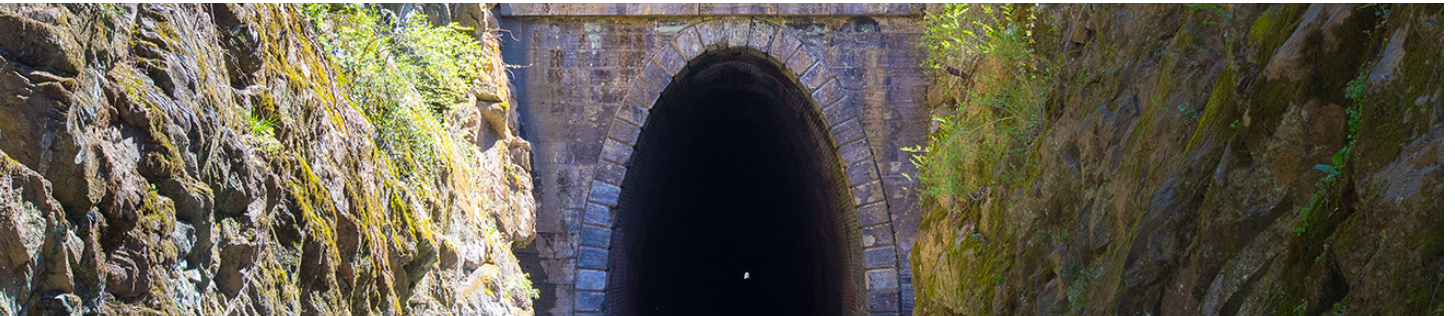
- Provides \$120 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 for utility assistance to provide direct assistance to residential utility customers with accounts over 60 days in arrears (as of August 31, 2021), including the cost to administer the program. (This \$120 million is in addition to the previously allocated \$100 million from the CARES Act.)
- The State Corporation Commission is directed to establish an application process to distribute funds directly to utilities to provide assistance to customers. The Department of Planning and Budget is directed to transfer funds to DHCD to address arrearages of customers of utilities that are not subject to State Corporation Commission jurisdiction (including municipal utilities).
- Utilities are required to keep separate ARPA COVID-19 Utility Assistance Funds and record direct assistance payments to customers. Utilities may require an attestation of financial hardship, but it is not required, and may not use funds for new deposits, down payments, fees, late fees, interest charges, or penalties.
- DHCD is directed to survey municipal utilities to determine the amount of unspent utility assistance funds previously provided under the CARES Act, as well as the level of outstanding arrearages from March 12, 2020, as of August 31, 2021. If funds provided are insufficient to cover aggregate outstanding jurisdictional and municipal customer arrearages, additional funds may be considered during the 2022 session.
- Does not include Phase II utilities, which are subject to separate language establishing a moratorium on disconnections of electric service for certain residential customers.
- Appropriates \$9.9 million in Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program funds to the Department of Social Services.
- Appropriates \$90.2 million in Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds to the Department of Social Services

Parks

- Provides \$25 million in Fiscal Recovery Funds in FY 2022 to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for outdoor recreation area maintenance and construction.



Visit Nelson County and the Blue Ridge Tunnel



The Blue Ridge Tunnel was constructed between 1850 and 1858 beneath Rockfish Gap in the Blue Ridge Mountains of central Virginia. CSX Transportation generously donated the tunnel to Nelson County in 2007.

The tunnel is located at the convergence of the southern entrance of Shenandoah National Park's Skyline Drive, the northern entrance of the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Appalachian Trail, and U. S. Bicycle Route 76. Both Interstate 64 and U. S. 250 cross over the tunnel at Rockfish Gap.

Traveling through the long, dark tunnel will be a stirring experience for a variety of visitors from across the Commonwealth and beyond: hikers and cyclists of every level, wildlife watchers, history enthusiasts, railroad buffs, heritage tourists, school children on field trips, and nearby residents.

SOURCE: NelsonCounty.com | **PHOTOS CREDIT:** [JACK LOONEY PHTOGRAPHY](#)



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](#)

Governance in the 21st Century:
The Role of Leadership

Registration Form | **Register Online**

Opening Session | September 10
Virtual

Closing Session | October 29
Location TBA

Registration Deadline | August 13



Altumint is the industry leading provider of Artificial Intelligence DaaS visual solutions to states and local agencies for automated traffic law enforcement, traffic monitoring, and forensic investigations.

Altumint's Pro series of solutions include; Pro ATE™ for Automated Traffic Enforcement, Pro AVR™ for Automated Vehicle Recognition and Pro APD™ for Automated Person Detection.

Pro ATE systems automatically capture and process speed, red-light and stop arm violations in all weather conditions, with IR illumination when needed. Full back-office support e.g., printing & mailing of citations, payment processing, customer service and court scheduling are included in a turnkey package. With the national challenge for law enforcement agencies to increase public safety while decreasing the frequency of interactions with the motoring public, these solutions strike an optimum balance.

Pro AVR systems automatically capture and process vehicle plate, state, color, brand & type with single cameras covering up to 5 lanes of heavy traffic, providing real time hot list alerts, maps, and flow information. Along with traditional traffic enforcement, Smart City initiatives, private security, retail and tolling are just a few of the other markets for Pro AVR.

Pro APD systems automatically capture and process multiple feature person attributes such as clothing, clothing color, hats, bags, etc., With multi camera tracking, coupled to a time-synthesis system, forensic investigations are accelerated and simplified. Importantly, this proprietary non-facial-recognition AI approach, “features, not faces”, addresses the growing privacy challenge associated with identification systems based on facial recognition. Altumint real time alert and search solutions not only improve law enforcement and private security effectiveness, but also open new business optimization opportunities in sectors such as manufacturing and logistics, casinos, banking, retail and transportation hubs.

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Virginia Counties Recognized for Model Programs

The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) is pleased to announce the 30 recipients of the 2021 Achievement Awards, which recognize excellence in local government programs. VACo received 102 submissions.

Winning entries focused on addressing issues of inclusion, belonging, and reconciliation that challenge counties today.

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

"I want to thank all who participated in the 19th year of the Achievement Awards," VACo Executive Director **Dean Lynch** said. "Our counties face challenges every day, and those challenges are written in these program submissions. What's also written are the innovative solutions that overcome these obstacles to make life better for communities across the Commonwealth. We celebrate these victories with all who participated."

Tedd Povar, retired Associate Director of the Virginia Institute of Government; **Dr. Sheryl Bailey**, Visiting Professor of Practice at Virginia Tech and former Chesterfield County Deputy County Administrator; and **Larry Land**, retired VACo Director of Policy Development, served as judges for this year's statewide competitive awards program.

Henrico County and its **Equity Ambassadors** program won this year's **Best Achievement Award**.

"Equity Ambassadors is a wonderful program that has gained in popularity among Henrico County students over the past couple of years," Dr. Bailey said. "The students recognized a need for their voices to be amplified on issues of equality, and they took action to make it happen. Equity Ambassadors also provides students with opportunities to learn positive leadership. I speak for the judges when I say we are honored to give this program the Best Achievement Award."

The judges also selected a Best Small County Achievement Award (50,000 or less population) and a Best Large County Achievement Award. **Nelson County** and its **Blue Ridge Tunnel Rehabilitation and Trail Project** program captured the **Best Small County Achievement Award** while **Chesterfield County** and its **Innovation Bootcamp** program earned the **Best Large County Achievement Award**.

"Congratulations to Nelson County for winning its first-ever Achievement Award, and for such an excellent program," Land said. "The county turned an abandoned railroad tunnel built in the 1850s into a regional recreation asset. I'm sure traveling through the long, dark tunnel is quite a thrilling treat, and I look forward to experience it one day."

Povar, who has served as judge since the Achievement Awards inception in 2003, said Chesterfield County's winning program reflects an important criteria for the VACo Achievement Awards. "As judges, we look for how a county uses innovation or ideas to solve a problem," Povar said. "Chesterfield County's program is about teaching the process of innovation from start to finish. In fact, this program was created because one of Chesterfield County's core values is innovation. Congratulations to Chesterfield County for a tremendous program and for continuing to be a leader in the VACo Achievement Awards program."

Chesterfield County tops the all-time Achievement Awards list with 39. Chesterfield County has won an award in each year of the 19-year history of the program. **Henrico County** is second on the list with 34 Achievement Awards while **Loudoun County** is third with 25.

The VACo Achievement Awards is a competitive program open to local government members of the association.

[Winning Achievement Award Submissions](#) | [Winning Program Descriptions](#) | [Achievement Awards Website](#)
[2021 Achievement Awards Entries](#) | [Past Winners](#) | [Past Judges](#)

Virginia Association of County Leadership Development: Learn from the best!

Scholarships still available for you and your team.

Join the 1,700 counties and state associations already benefiting from the effectiveness of the [NACo Leadership Academy](#), the **12-week, online leadership program** led by General Colin Powell. The James City County Administrator shares his thoughts on just how impactful the NACo Leadership Academy has been on their team and county.

"As far as the Academy, I've received very positive feedback from my staff who have gone through the program. From what I've seen and heard, this program gets everyone speaking the same language and I expect that will have a positive effect on how my team operates on a daily basis. Having the opportunity to share ideas and challenges with other localities and municipalities was beneficial especially during the pandemic. Ultimately, improving our leadership skills will improve communication and collaboration across the county and the services we provide to our community. I look forward to more of the team going through the NACo Leadership Academy." - County Administrator, James City County

Last chance to enroll for 2021!

Our September Cohort is right around the corner. Join us in investing in the county workforce – empowering them to become better leaders today and into the future.

We would also like to acknowledge and congratulate the April Virginia County graduates:

Josh Dobyns, Sergeant, Bedford County

Adrian Whicker, Administrative Librarian, Roanoke County

Bryce Chalkley, Senior Library Assistant, Roanoke County

Cheryl Buchanan, Communications Center Manager, Hanover County

Delon Brown, Director of Information Technology, Surry County

Donald Lee, Deputy Director General Services, Hanover County

Doug Powell, General Manager, James City Service Authority, James City County

Edward Leonard, Captain, Northampton County

Heather Brown, Purchasing Agent/Office Assistant, Charlotte County

Jeff Flournoy, ESVA 9-1-1 Director, Northampton County

Joseph Guthrie, Chair Board of Supervisors, Pulaski County

Kathryn Scott, Benefits Program Supervisor, King and Queen County

Michael Bagwell, Captain Northampton County

Patrick Teague, Human Resources Director, James City County

Terrilyn Pete, Director of Finance, Fauquier County

Timothy Honeycutt, Captain, Northampton County

Victoria Baughan, Cataloging Librarian, Roanoke County

Katie Boyle, Director of Government Affairs, Virginia Association of Counties

Paul Malabad, Director of Information Technology, City of Harrisonburg

George Bains, Deputy County Administrator, Gloucester County

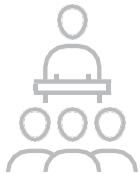
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MORE AND ENROLL](#)**

Developed by General Colin Powell, the Professional Development Academy and NACo, the High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that helps your workforce develop fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and our residents.



Counties affect the lives of residents every day. When our frontline staff are empowered as leaders, we deliver services more effectively. **The NACo Frontline IT Leadership Academy is a resource that connects your staff with practical leadership training.** FLIT uses an innovative, interactive online learning platform that combines real-time webinars, recorded sessions and small group discussions to deliver effective training without traveling away from the county – saving money and maximizing time.

THE ACADEMY FOCUSES ON FIVE ESSENTIAL SKILLS:



LEAD:

Engage teams and stakeholders to foster positive climates and exceed common expectations



ORGANIZE:

Plan, lead and execute organizational change more effectively and consistently



COLLABORATE:

Establish alignment and strong partnerships through building stronger relationships



DELIVER:

Measure projects and processes to deliver results aligned with county and community priorities



COMMUNICATE:

Create clarity, confidence and community

The NACo Frontline IT Leadership Academy empowers frontline county government professionals with fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.

The Academy enrollment fee is \$2,495 per participant. NACo Member County cost per enrollee is \$1,350.

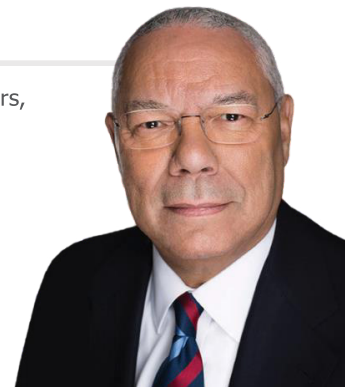
With a curriculum developed by *General Colin Powell* and public and private sector leaders, NACo Frontline IT Leadership Academy gives students the opportunity to learn from world-class faculty. All content is guided by an expert facilitator.

Find out more at NACo.org/skills

Or contact Luke Afeman

lukea@pdaleadership.com

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by Beau Blevins | [cashvest® by three+one®](#)

To Public Officials Across the Country: cashvest® is Your Program

As public officials, you know better than anyone the importance of maximizing every resource your locality has to offer. This is particularly true when it comes to managing your cash.

But how can you, as a local leader, be absolutely sure that every dollar is being put to use? And how can you know for sure if your entity's funds are either too liquid or not liquid enough? These are the questions local treasurers, administrators, and chief investment officers have been asking themselves for decades.

Now those questions have an answer: cashvest®. It's a program created by public officials for public officials.

The co-founders of three+one®, a public treasurer and a school official, saw the public sector's growing need to take the guesswork out of liquidity management. They also knew that some of the best local solutions came from public servants. That's why they designed cashvest® to harness the power of liquidity data to provide a single point of reference and give you the knowledge and control you need to put all your entity's cash to work.

To our public officials across the nation, know this: cashvest® is your program. It's a best management practice. It's endorsed by the National Association of Counties (NACo) and ten other state county associations. It's also a local solution created by local leaders to help protect taxpayers and transform communities.

I hope you'll take advantage of your program today. Contact us to learn more on why cashvest® is the liquidity-management solution for your public entity or higher Ed institution needs.



Let's meet in person at the VACo County Officials' Summit

Thursday, August 19, 2021 | [Draft Agenda](#)

It's been a long time since we were all together. But that will change at the VACo County Officials' Summit on August 19 when VACo members will meet in person for the first time in 18 months.

Don't miss this opportunity to see old friends, network with new acquaintances, and feel the energy in the room as you and your peers convene for a one-of-a-kind political discussion.

For the past several years, the VACo County Officials' Summit has brought state and federal election candidates together to talk about the issues facing Virginia and her localities. This year will be no exception. The plan is to hear from candidates for the Commonwealth's highest offices.

Please join us as we talk politics with the candidates on Thursday, August 19, 2021 in Richmond. More details will be released soon. We look forward to a great event.

[Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#) | [Draft Agenda](#) | [Book Your Hotel Room](#)

IT'S TIME TO HIT THE VIRTUAL
ROAD FOR THE...

VACo 2021 REGIONAL MEETINGS

REGIONS 4&10 – MAY 11

REGIONS 9&11 – MAY 25

REGIONS 3&5 – JUNE 8

REGIONS 1&2 – JUNE 29

REGIONS 12&13 – SEPTEMBER 22

REGIONS 6,7&8 – SEPTEMBER 23

Lorie Newton Selected as National Professional Manager of the Year



Lorie W. Newton, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB has been selected as the National Professional Manager of the Year by The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP). This prestigious award is presented to one individual within the U.S. and Canada who demonstrates they are a promoter of education and professional development, supporter of professional organizations, holds public procurement certifications, and demonstrates passion for the procurement profession.

Newton currently serves as the Assistant Procurement Director for Chesterfield County. A past President of the Virginia Association of Governmental Purchasing and currently the Area II Chapter Ambassador of NIGP, Lorie is an active promoter of education, connection and the procurement profession across the state and throughout metro Richmond.

Congratulations!



Roanoke County Director of Economic Development, Jill Loope, has been appointed to the Virginia Manufacturing Development Commission.

In this role, Jill will work in coordination with Governor Northam's administration to assess manufacturing needs and formulate legislative and regulatory remedies to ensure the future of the manufacturing sector in Virginia.

Governor Northam Announces Virginia to Reduce Water Pollution, Increase Access to Clean Water

~ \$411.5 million investment in American Rescue Plan funds will improve aging water and sewer infrastructure, restore waterways ~

RICHMOND—Governor Ralph Northam recently announced that Virginia plans to allocate \$411.5 million in federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to reduce water pollution and increase access to clean water across the Commonwealth. The proposal will make substantial investments in aging water systems and improve drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure.

The announcement is part of “Investment Week,” during which the Governor and legislative leaders will highlight proposals for distributing the \$4.3 billion in ARP funding available to the Commonwealth in advance of the August 2nd special session.

“With this funding, we have a tremendous opportunity to rebuild our aging water systems and ensure every Virginia family has reliable access to safe, clean drinking water,” **said Governor Northam**. “In addition to modernizing water and sewer infrastructure across the Commonwealth, these investments will go a long way towards restoring the health of our waterways and reducing pollution in our communities.”

The proposal includes \$186.5 million for wastewater treatment and nutrient removal, \$125 million for combined sewer overflow projects in Richmond, Alexandria, and Lynchburg, and \$100 million to assist water systems in small and disadvantaged communities. These proposed investments supplement more than [\\$300 million](#) in ARP funding that the Commonwealth sent to towns in June and \$2.3 billion made available to Virginia’s 133 counties and cities directly from the federal government to meet local response and recovery needs, which include improving access to clean drinking water and to supporting vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure.

“Protecting the environment, and particularly providing for sanitary disposal of wastewater, is critical to public health and the economy,” **said Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources Matthew J. Strickler**. “These investments will put us even closer to restoring the Chesapeake Bay, and will clean up streams and improve septic and sewer systems across the Commonwealth.”

“The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of ensuring all Virginians have access to basic necessities—safe housing, quality health care, food security, and reliable utilities,” **said Secretary of Health and Human Resources Daniel Carey, MD, MHCM**. “Investing in our water systems will help advance health equity and ensure a robust economic recovery.”

Clean water supports overall public health by preventing water-related ailments, increasing sanitation, and enabling food production. Affordable and reliable access to clean water is also important for driving economic activity across a broad range of industries, from tourism and outdoor recreation to agriculture and manufacturing.

“Maintaining wastewater infrastructure is an essential function of government,” **said Senator Mamie Locke**. “I am grateful to my colleagues in the General Assembly and to Governor Northam for investing in this issue that has gone unaddressed for far too long.”

“This is a public health issue, an economic issue, and an equity issue,” **said House Majority Leader Charniele Herring**. “This investment means more Virginians can focus on leading healthy lives and taking pride in their communities, not worrying about high utility bills.”

“As someone who values our natural ecosystems, I am excited to see the tremendous benefits this will bring to improving the health of watersheds across the Commonwealth,” **said Senator David Marsden**. “It is critical to use these federal funds to make permanent improvements in our fight for clean water.”

“Every Virginian deserves access to clean water and we know that a healthy environment is the backbone of a strong economy,” **said Delegate David Bulova**. “I look forward to continuing to work with the Administration and my fellow legislators to make Virginia the healthiest state in the nation.”

Request for Proposal

TOWN OF IRVINGTON



INTRODUCTION

The Town of Irvington, Virginia (“Town”) is seeking proposals from qualified professional consultants, or teams of consultants (“Consultant”), to help develop, administer, and gather and present findings of a Comprehensive Plan Survey. The Town is also interested in a proposal to update, the Town’s Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code as a result of the Survey.

PURPOSE

The Comprehensive Plan Survey will assist the Town Council and the Planning Commission in identifying a common direction identified by residents, business owners, stakeholders, and the community. The Survey output can then inform an update to the existing Comprehensive Plan to establish a shared vision for the future and an action plan to achieve it. The planning process will consider the realities of changing economic and demographic conditions while building broad community consensus on the key values that define the Town of Irvington. This effort will integrate the community’s future visions, goals, and policies for implementation over the next 5 to 10 years. In general, this effort will:

- Seek valuable public input toward the creation of new community goals and objectives;
- Consider local, regional, national, and global trends/challenges and their implications for Irvington;
- Leverage community input as a result of the Survey to update existing and/or create a new Comprehensive Plan;
- Build support for the creation and adoption of new policies.

**Click here to view
Town of Irvinington RFP**



Premier Partner Spotlight

THE BERKLEY GROUP



Local Government **STRONG**

Join Dean Lynch and Drew Williams, CEO, as they discuss The Berkley Group's array of services to local governments. With the release of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, The Berkley Group is also assisting communities to develop a roadmap to maximize return on investment by offering community engagement, strategic planning, capital improvement planning, project management and administration.

The Berkley Group is the go-to consultant for Virginia counties and their communities. For more information, please visit www.bgllc.net. What doors can we open for you?

Watch the [Premier Partner Video](#)

End To End Computing (EEC)
a vetted GSA HACS approved contract holder
has developed ...

A Tailored Cybersecurity Program for VACo members



Carlton Harris CTO of EEC will join Dean Lynch Executive Director of VACo in this month's premier partner spotlight to discuss how VACo members can take advantage of our tailored cybersecurity program to make cybersecurity services more accessible. This program will feature:

01

Cyber Hygiene Assessment

A complementary cyber hygiene assessment program for members to identify gaps in their cybersecurity program and strategize methods for closing those gaps.

02

Informative Training

A series of joint training sessions scheduled throughout the year to registered members. Sessions will also include training collateral for combating common threats and best practices.

03

Special Membership Pricing

A catalog of discounted pricing to VACo members.
(Ability to leverage GSA schedule for ease of procurement.)



Carlton Harris CTO of EEC

**View this VACo
Premier Partner
Spotlight Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnmFDYlHKoI>



www.eecomputing.com/events



www.eecomputing.com

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833-720-7770



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: **News and Resources from the 2021 NACo Annual Conference**

Thank you to all who participated in the 2021 National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference, as we celebrated our successes, shared lessons learned and laid the groundwork for a brighter future for our counties, parishes and boroughs.

Below, find [new NACo resources](#), [County News conference coverage](#), [videos](#) and more.

CATCH UP ON CONFERENCE ACTION

2021–2022 AMERICAN COUNTY PLATFORM

Conference delegates adopted resolutions on pressing federal policies that make up the American County Platform.

[ACCESS THE PLATFORM](#) | [EXPLORE NACo's LATEST POLICY BRIEFS](#)

COUNTY NEWS CONFERENCE COVERAGE

Explore session recaps, highlights of new NACo resources and more.

[READ MORE](#)

SESSION RECORDINGS

Visit the [on-demand section on NACo's events and education hub](#) to access a selection of workshop recordings from the conference.

[GO TO EDUCATION ON-DEMAND](#)



With the release of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funds, local governments have the opportunity to address the economic fallout and unequal impact of COVID-19. This is an incredible opportunity to increase trust in local government and tell your community's story of recovery. The Berkley Group can help your community develop a roadmap to maximize return on investment and take the pressure off of managing all aspects of the funds and projects by offering the following services:

- Community Engagement;
- Strategic Planning;
- Capital Improvement Planning;
- Project Management; and
- Program Administration.

Take this time to reimagine your community – building a strong and socially equitable foundation for the future.



Darren K. Coffey, AICP | Director of Strategic Partnerships
434-981-2026 | www.bglc.net



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

American Rescue Plan Act

Featured Events



Featured Resources



American Rescue Plan Act

GENERAL RESOURCES

- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – [Full Text of Bill from Congress.Gov](#)
- VACo Overview – [American Rescue Plan Act Enacted; Legislation Expected to Provide Significant Resources to Virginia Counties](#)

RESOURCES ON CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

- NACo Overview – [State and Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds](#)
- Questions posed by NACo to U.S. Treasury Regarding State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – [NACo Letter to White House Treasury on Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund](#)
- Questions posed by Government Finance Officers Association, National Association of State Treasurers, National Association of State Budget Officers, and National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers – [Click here for the questions](#)

RESOURCES ON OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING IN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

- American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund
 - The National Association of Counties (NACo) has provided a [very helpful dashboard](#) that is

VACo's American Rescue Plan Act Toolkit

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 \(vaco.org\)](#).

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

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 your 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.

VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

EIGHTH EDITION, 2019



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(SHIPPING IS INCLUDED)



Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition



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

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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](mailto:Valerie.Russell@vacounty.org).



DEPUTY DIRECTOR, INSPECTIONS & CODE COMPLIANCE/ BUILDING OFFICIAL | Prince George County | Posted August 5



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER – ON CALL – PTT | Prince George County | Posted August 5



ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR | Rockingham County | Posted August 5



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNER III-IV | Thomas Jefferson PDC | Posted August 5



ASSISTANT REGISTRAR | Montgomery County | Posted August 4



DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | City of Salem | Posted August 4



UTILITY ENGINEER | Gloucester County | Posted August 4



ASSISTANT COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY I | Gloucester County | Posted August 4



ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR I | Frederick County | Posted August 4



FLIGHTLINE TECHNICIAN | Frederick County | Posted August 4



LANDFILL TECHNICIAN | Frederick County | Posted August 4



MAINTENANCE MECHANIC ASSISTANT | Frederick County | Posted August 4



MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN (NRADC) | Frederick County | Posted August 4



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR | Alleghany County | Posted August 3



ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN | Fauquier County | Posted August 3



SYSTEM ANALYST IV | Fauquier County | Posted August 3



BUDGET & MANAGEMENT ANALYST I | Fauquier County | Posted August 3



PROCUREMENT MANAGER | Fauquier County | Posted August 3



UTILITES ENGINEERING MANAGER | Stafford County | Posted August 3



DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF | City of Hopewell | Posted August 3



COUNTY ATTORNEY | King George County | Posted August 2



PLANNING ASSOCIATE II | Fauquier County | Posted August 2



**ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT** | Botetourt County
| Posted July 30



**CIVIL PROCESS DEPUTY
SHERIFF** | New Kent County | Posted
July 30



**COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICER DISPATCHER** | New Kent
County | Posted July 30



**PATROL DEPUTY
SHERIFF** | New Kent County | Posted
July 30



**ANIMAL CONTROL
OFFICER** | New Kent County | Posted
July 30



**FAMILY SERVICES
SPECIALIST I/II** | New Kent County
| Posted July 30



**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING
SPECIALIST** | New River Valley
Regional Commission | Posted July 30



**PLANNING
COORDINATOR** | Montgomery County
| Posted July 30



**DEVELOPMENT
PLANNER** | Montgomery County
| Posted July 30



REVENUE SPECIALIST |
New Kent County | Posted July 28



**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
SPECIALIST** | New Kent County
| Posted July 28



**BEFORE & AFTER
SCHOOL COUNSELOR** | New Kent
County | Posted July 28



**HUMAN RESOURCES
GENERALIST** | New Kent County
| Posted July 28



BUILDING INSPECTOR |
New Kent County | Posted July 28



**PLANNING & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR** |
Nottoway County | Posted July 27



**ASSISTANT CITY
ATTORNEY IV** | City of Chesapeake
| Posted July 27



PLANNER | Westmoreland
County | Posted July 27



**DIRECTOR OF
PLANNING** | Rockingham County
| Posted July 27



**DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC WORKS** | Rockingham County
| Posted July 27



**ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGER** | Campbell County | Posted
July 26



**SENIOR UTILITY
SUPERVISOR** | Chesterfield County
| Posted July 26



**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR
PT** | Gloucester County | Posted July
26



**CLEAN COMMUNITY
COORDINATOR** | Gloucester County
| Posted July 26



**VICTIM WITNESS
ADVOCATE PT** | Gloucester County
| Posted July 26



TAX TECHNICIAN I |
Montgomery County | Posted July 26



ASSISTANT REGISTRAR |
Montgomery County | Posted July 26



**ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT** | Montgomery County
| Posted July 26



**HUMAN RESOURCE
COORDINATOR** | City of Manassas
| Posted July 26

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.

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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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