



Budget Amendments Introduced to Address County Priorities

As in past years, VACo worked with members of the General Assembly to introduce a package of budget amendments that address top county priorities. Budget amendments were required to be submitted by Friday, January 14; Senate member amendments were made available on Wednesday, January 19, and House member amendments were made available on Thursday, January 20. The Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee heard presentations from Senators who do not serve on the committee on the afternoon of January 20, and the House Appropriations Committee will likely hold a similar hearing in the coming days. In addition to amendments proposed by members, a set of amendments from Governor Youngkin is expected to be released on Friday, January 21. The “money committees” will deliberate on their budget proposals in advance of releasing their respective budgets on Sunday, February 20.

VACo extends its appreciation to the patrons of its budget amendments for their efforts to ensure that county priorities are part of the budget process. A list of VACo’s requested amendments, many of which are joint efforts with the Virginia Municipal League, Virginia First Cities, and other partner organizations, is provided below.

As the money committee chairs announced this week, large numbers of budget requests were submitted, including amendments that VACo supports. VACo will be highlighting several of these amendments in a future edition of Capitol Contact.

VACo Budget Amendments

Instructional aides: [Item 137 #17h \(Plum\)](#)/[Item 137 #12s \(McClellan\)](#) provide \$160.2 million General Funds (GF) in FY 2023 and \$167.4 million GF in FY 2024 for the state’s share of funding for instructional aides based on the ratio of total kindergarten through grade seven instructional aides to total kindergarten through grade seven teachers. Currently, instructional aides are only funded for kindergarten and special education. This amendment is intended to provide additional state support for positions that are currently funded only with local dollars.

Flexibility in teacher compensation increase: [Item 137 #10h \(Watts\)](#), [Item 137 #2s \(Marsden\)](#), and [Item 137 #8s \(Ebbin\)](#) remove the requirement in the introduced budget for school divisions to provide at least an average 2.5 percent salary increase in each year of the biennium in order to access the state share of the 5 percent compensation supplement that is proposed for each year of the biennium. With the removal of this language, school divisions could provide the local share of up to a 5 percent salary increase in each year of the biennium without having to meet a minimum threshold to access the state share.

Recordation tax distribution to localities: [Item 266 #1h \(Durant\)](#) eliminates budget language that directs \$20 million each year in recordation tax revenue to the Hampton Roads Regional Transit Fund and instead provides \$20 million in general fund appropriations each year for deposit to the Hampton Roads Regional Transit Fund. This amendment would reverse the 2020 General Assembly's action to dedicate \$20 million in state recordation tax revenue (which would otherwise have been distributed to localities outside of Northern Virginia) to Hampton Roads Transit, and would replace this distribution with an appropriation of General Fund dollars. This amendment is meant to coincide with HB 978 and SB 363/SB 512.

Support for local Children's Services Act programs: [Item 284 #1h \(Plum\)](#), [Item 284 #2h \(Plum\)](#)/[Item 284 #1s \(Hanger\)](#) and [Item 285 #2s \(Hanger\)](#) provide funding for two proposals from a 2021 report on the implementation of legislation directing the Office of Children's Services to provide additional oversight of local Children's Services Act (CSA) programs. The funding would support four regional consultants at the Office of Children's Service to provide additional assistance to local CSA programs, as well as additional administrative funds to ensure that each local CSA program receives at least \$50,000 per year in administrative funding, including local matching dollars.

Deputy sheriffs' staffing: State Code requires the Compensation Board to fund one law-enforcement deputy for each 1,500 people in a jurisdiction in which the sheriff bears primary law enforcement responsibilities. This staffing ratio has not been fully funded since FY 2008. [Item 72 #2h \(Wyatt\)](#) and [Item 72 #1s \(Boysko\)](#) would provide \$11.5 million GF in FY 2023 and \$14.4 million GF in FY 2024 to allocate 259 additional deputy positions in FY 2023 and 16 more positions in FY 2024, for a total of 275 positions over the biennium.

Jail per diems: [Item 73 #1h \(Brewer\)](#), [Item 73 #4s \(Deeds\)](#) and [Item 73 #3s \(Petersen\)](#) would restore the local-responsible per diem rate from \$4 to its pre-FY 2011 level of \$8.

Aid to localities with police departments ("HB 599"): [Item 408 #2h \(Brewer\)](#), [Item 408 #1s \(Edwards\)](#), and [Item 408 #2s \(Lucas\)](#) provide \$38.4 million in FY 2022 in HB 599 funding to reflect the general fund revenue growth rate of 14.4 percent in FY 2021 and 4.9 percent in FY 2022, in accordance with statute. [Item 408 #3s \(Reeves\)](#) would provide \$50.5 million GF in FY 2022, \$12 million which is to be allocated to local police departments to assist with pay compression, recruitment, and retention of officers. [Item 410 #2h \(Brewer\)](#), [Item 410 #1s \(Reeves\)](#), [Item 410 #2s \(Edwards\)](#), [Item 410 #3s \(Lucas\)](#), and [Item 420 #4s \(Newman\)](#) all provide \$108.8 million over the biennium to reflect GF revenue growth in the previous biennium, as well as the projected GF growth of 4.8 percent in FY 2023 and 4.2 percent in FY 2024.

Reimbursement for general registrar and electoral board member compensation: [Item 90 #1h \(Sickles\)](#) and [Item 90 #1s \(Deeds\)](#) provide \$2.7 million GF each year in additional funding to fully reimburse localities for general registrars' and electoral board members' salaries.

Clarification of public agencies' ability to offer compensatory time in lieu of paid overtime: [Item 4-14 #1h \(Byron\)](#) and [Item 4-14 #1s \(Stuart\)](#) incorporate language from the caboose into the biennium budget that clarifies that public agencies can continue to offer compensatory time in lieu of wages for overtime pay; this language would expire when a permanent statutory clarification took effect.

VACo Contact: [VACo Legislative Team](#)

VACo remembers Jay Stegmaier as a kind and inspirational leader. Jay was always eager to teach many of our educational sessions, especially those that focused on finance and leadership. He was a friend to many VACo members and will be dearly missed. Chesterfield County posted the message below on its [Facebook page](#).



Chesterfield mourns the loss of former County Administrator Jay Stegmaier who passed away early on Thursday, January 20. Stegmaier served as county administrator from 2007-2016. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Here is a statement from County Administrator Joe Casey on his passing:

“I was deeply saddened to learn about the passing of Jay Stegmaier earlier today. My personal and professional relationship with Jay began in 1990 and I had the pleasure of working with him on a number of regional projects until his retirement in 2016. He was a great mentor to many and highly respected throughout the region. As much as he thought of county employees as family, they felt the same about Jay and are mourning his loss. While he had to make tough decisions as county administrator, he always acted in the best interest of Chesterfield and the people who call it home. His leadership and dedication to public service will be greatly missed, and our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.”

The county flag will be lowered to half-staff in his honor.

VACo Welcomes a New Premier Partner - Blue Line Solutions



Blue Line Solutions' TrueBlue Highway Safety Program in School Zones and Construction Zones is not about revenue generation.

Their photo speed enforcement public safety program is a data driven, solutions approach that includes public information and education throughout the life of the program and a 30-day initial warning period in new programs before citations are issued.

This short video outlines their background, mission, and remarkable program results: <https://youtu.be/xamPdkBCa0U>

The Blue Line Solutions Mission:
We Strive for Zero
Zero Injuries
Zero Fatalities
Zero Crashes

Please contact Greg Hogston for more information: ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org or 276.759.8064



Visit Smyth County and the Virginia Highlands Horse Trail

Located in the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area, the Virginia Highlands Horse Trail is a 68-mile trail between Elk Garden and VA Rt. 94. It features mountainous terrain, valley views and valley crossings. The trail includes parking and primitive camping for those who trailer horses.

SOURCE: VisitSmythCountyVa.com



CHAIRPERSONS' INSTITUTE



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022 AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2022

\$350 ATTENDEE | [AGENDA](#) | [OMNI RICHMOND HOTEL](#)

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

EMAIL: _____

COUNTY/ORGANIZATION: _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

NAME ON THE CARD: _____

Hotel Reservation Details: Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. The Chairpersons' Institute is held at the Omni Richmond Hotel, 100 South 12th Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates start at \$162 (single room occupancy). To reserve a hotel room, call 804.344.7000 by January 31, 2022, with this code: **Government Legislative Day 2022 Group** or reserve a room at this [Omni Richmond Hotel link](#).

Fax completed registration form with credit card information to 804.788.0083.

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

PLEASE CONTACT
VALERIE RUSSELL AT
VRUSSELL@VACO.ORG
WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Registration Fee: \$350 Attendee | \$175 Guest

Or [click here](#) to register online.



Refund Policy: Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by January 21, 2022. Substitutions are allowed in the event a supervisor is unable to attend. For more information, call VACo at 804.788.6652.



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.



Jonathan Clark

Account Executive

Phone: 540.840.8430

Email: jonathan.clark@colonialwebb.com

Website: www.ColonialWebb.com

[VACo Page Link](#)



Brandon Davis

Executive Director

Phone: 540.636.8800

Email: bdavis@nsvregion.org

Website: www.nsvregion.org

[VACo Page Link](#)



Rebecca Liebschutz

Account Executive

Phone: 844.424.6844

Email: partnerships@binti.com

Website: www.binti.com

[VACo Page Link](#)



Myrica W. Keiser

Executive Director

Phone: 540.261.7178

Email: mkeiser@vrwa.org

Website: www.vrwa.org

[VACo Page Link](#)



AIA Virginia

AIA Virginia Hosts First Community Dinner Since Pandemic

On September 29th, AIA Virginia held its “Blueprint for Better Communities” Dinner in Norfolk. Created in 2019, this initiative is centered on a simple concept of bringing together architects and community influencers over a private dinner to discuss how we can work together to pursue the city’s vision. Suspended temporarily due to COVID-19, AIA Virginia reconvened our architects with city leaders last month at VIA Design for an inspiring conversation and time of fellowship. Special thanks to Haley Morgan who was instrumental in facilitating the logistics of the event.



Below are some of the key themes and topics that were discussed:

- Resilience and improved infrastructure must be a focal point of the future.
- There are many opportunities for architects to use their expertise in the development of solutions to mitigate flooding and sea-level rise.
- City leaders are looking to architects to make sure the corporate build environment still thrives in the wake of COVID.
- Through shaping the built environment, architects can lure people to live in Norfolk!
- The city lacks public community spaces where people can just “hang out.”
- How do we breathe “new life” into our areas that have intense poverty?
- City leaders and architects both described the Norfolk as a city of potential, persistence, and partnerships.

[Click here to read more.](#)



Bills would impose restrictions on local budget process

[HB 1010 \(Durant\)](#) and [SB 620 \(Cosgrove\)](#) would impose new restrictions on the local budget process by requiring a referendum if growth in real estate assessments would generate more than 101 percent of the previous year's collections and the locality did not reduce the tax rate accordingly. VACo is opposed to this legislation.

Under current law, when any annual assessment, biennial assessment, or general reassessment of real property by a county, city, or town would result in an increase of 1 percent or more in the total real property tax levied, the locality has two options:

- Reduce the tax rate for the forthcoming tax year so as to produce no more than 101 percent of the previous year's real property tax levies, OR
- If deemed necessary by the governing body, a rate that produces more than 101 percent of the previous year's levies may be imposed after conducting a public hearing on the issue. Statutory provisions govern the timing and manner of public notice of the hearing, as well as stipulating the contents of the notice. By Code, the advertisement must include (1) a statement providing the percentage by which the total assessed value of real property (excluding additional assessments due to new construction or improvements to property) exceeds the previous year's total assessed value of real property; (2) an explanation of the rate that would generate the same amount of real estate tax collections as the previous year; (3) the rate proposed to be adopted; (4) the percentage by which the proposed budget would exceed the previous year's; and (5) the date, time, and location of the public hearing.

HB 1010 and SB 620 would eliminate the public hearing requirement and instead require any increase in the rate of levy above the reduced rate to be approved by a referendum.

VACo encourages members to register opposition to these bills with their legislators.

KEY POINTS

- Property taxes are the mainstay of local government revenues, representing approximately 46.4 percent of revenue for cities and 55 percent of revenues for counties in FY 2020. Revenues derived from property taxes fund important shared services, such as K-12 education, public safety, election administration, social services, and behavioral health.
- Article X, Section 2 of the Virginia Constitution requires real estate to be assessed at fair market value. Rising assessments reflect a robust real estate market. Local elected officials have the ability to provide targeted tax relief to residents with disabilities or who are 65 or older, subject to locally-established income or financial worth limitations.
- Local governments are already required by § 58.1-3321 to hear public comment in circumstances when assessments are increasing, and the tax rate is not proposed to be reduced accordingly. Local governments are also required to hold a separate public hearing on the proposed local budget. These two venues afford residents the opportunity to provide important feedback about their priorities for public services and how the revenue to fund those services should be raised. Decisions about the tax rate must be weighed along with decisions regarding demands for services and other spending pressures.
- Local elected officials are accountable to their constituents for all decisions they make, including the establishment of tax rates and the use of revenues derived from local taxes.



School Construction Local Authority Financing Bill Advances

On January 19, by a vote of 14-2, the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee voted to report [SB 472 \(McClellan\)](#). VACo spoke in strong support of the measure, which would permit any county or city to impose an additional local sales and use tax of up to 1 percent, if initiated by a resolution of the local governing body and approved by voters at a local referendum. The revenues of such of the local tax would be used solely for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools. Any tax imposed shall expire when the costs for capital projects are to be repaid and shall not be more than 20 years after the date of the resolution passed. Currently, this authority is limited to the qualifying localities of Charlotte, Gloucester, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Northampton, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties and the City of Danville.

VACo thanks everyone who responded to our [Capitol Contact Alert](#) on the measure. The Committee also voted to advance by similar votes, [SB 37 \(Norment\)](#) and [SB 298 \(Deeds\)](#), which would expand this authority to Isle of Wight County and the City of Charlottesville respectively and are also supported by VACo.

SB 472 now moves to the full Senate. **VACo strongly encourages you to contact your [Senators](#) and urge them to support SB 472.**

In the House, two pieces of legislation identical to SB 472 have been filed. [HB 531 \(Hudson\)](#) has been [assigned](#) to the House Finance Committee's Subcommittee #3, while [HB 1099 \(LaRock\)](#) is pending committee assignment, but will most likely also be assigned to a House Finance Subcommittee. VACo strongly supports these bills and requests that you to contact members of the [House Finance Committee](#) to urge them to support this legislation.

Delegate Hudson also filed [HB 545 \(Hudson\)](#), which is the House companion for [SB 298 \(Deeds\)](#). Additionally, Delegate Edmunds introduced [HB 63 \(Edmunds\)](#), which grants this taxing authority to Prince Edward County. VACo also supports these bills.

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



Legislation Would Restrict County Taxing Authority

[HB 75 \(Ware\)](#) would place restrictions on the additional taxing authority granted to counties in 2020. VACo opposes this legislation.

The bill would generally place a cap of 5 percent on transient occupancy taxes imposed by counties and require revenues from rates between 2 and 5 percent to be dedicated to tourism. Under the 2020 legislation, unless previously authorized for some other purpose, county transient occupancy tax revenues from rates between 2 and 5 percent are to be dedicated for tourism, but revenues from rates above 5 percent may be used for general purposes. The bill also caps meals taxes imposed by counties at 2 percent, with rates up to 4 percent allowed if approved in a referendum. Under the 2020 legislation, meals taxes are allowed at up to 6 percent, with no referendum requirement. (HB 75 also reinstates earlier Code language that restricts a meals tax referendum that fails from being placed on the ballot by resolution of the board of supervisors within three years of the referendum's failure.)

HB 75 has been referred to the [House Finance Committee](#). Please contact your legislators to oppose this legislation.

KEY POINTS

- The 2020 legislation recognized that counties bear similar responsibilities to those of cities, and that counties need similar options for revenue diversification to generate the necessary funds to provide these services. This legislation retreats from the progress that was made in 2020.
- Counties have recognized the stresses placed on the hospitality industry during the pandemic and have developed a variety of creative approaches to assist local hotels and restaurants, including the use of federal relief funds to provide grants, regulatory flexibility and grant funding to assist with outdoor dining, and restaurant gift card promotion programs, among other efforts.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)



Helpful Bills Would Assist With Costs Of Housing State-Responsible Inmates In Local And Regional Jails; Please Contact Legislators To Support

[HB 989 \(Runion\)](#) and [SB 165 \(Peake\)](#) would improve state support for state-responsible inmates being housed in local and regional jails. Currently, in addition to state support for jail staffing provided through the Compensation Board, the state provides a per-diem payment to assist with the costs of housing incarcerated individuals. These rates - \$4 for local-responsible inmates and \$12 for state-responsible inmates – have not been increased since FY 2011.

A state-responsible inmate is an individual who has been convicted of one or more felony offenses and sentenced to one year or more. A local-responsible inmate is an individual arrested on a state warrant and incarcerated in a local correctional facility prior to trial, convicted of a misdemeanor offense and sentenced to a term in a local correctional facility, or convicted of a felony offense and given an effective sentence of one year or less.

Language in Virginia Code § 53.1-20 requires state-responsible offenders to be placed in the custody of the Department of Corrections and received into the state corrections system within 60 days of the date on which the final sentencing order is sent to the Director of the Department of Corrections. However, language in the Appropriation Act overrides this Code section and provides that the Director of the Department of Corrections “shall receive offenders into the state correctional system from local and regional jails at such time as he determines that sufficient, secure and appropriate housing is available, placing a priority on receiving inmates diagnosed and being treated for HIV, mental illnesses requiring medication, or Hepatitis C.” While some jails house relatively few state-responsible offenders, some localities have reported problems with overcrowding that have been exacerbated by state-responsible inmates being housed in local or regional jails.

HB 989 would provide for a tiered reimbursement rate to localities that increases payments for state-responsible inmates who remain in local and regional jails for longer periods of time by providing for a payment of \$12 per day for the first 60 days of incarceration following the transmission of the final sentencing order by the court to the Director of the Department of Corrections, \$40 per day for more than 60 but not more than 90 days of incarceration following the transmission of the order, and the actual cost of incarceration as calculated by the Compensation Board in its annual jail cost report for each day beyond the 90-day period.

SB 165 (Peake) would provide for local jails to be compensated for the actual costs of incarceration as calculated by the Compensation Board in its annual jail cost report beginning on the sixty-first day after transmission of the sentencing order.

SB 165 has been referred to the [Senate Rehabilitation and Social Services Committee](#). HB 989 has not yet been referred to a committee. VACo supports these bills and encourages members to register their support with their legislators. VACo is also working with the Virginia Municipal League, the Virginia Association of Regional Jails, and the Virginia Sheriffs' Association on budget amendments to restore per diem payments for local-responsible inmates to their pre-FY 2011 levels of \$8/day.

KEY POINTS

- Per diem rates have not been adjusted since FY 2011, while the costs of caring for incarcerated individuals have increased. According to the most recent state data, the average daily cost to house a jail inmate is now \$100.32 (of which localities contribute \$55.30).
- Virginia localities make a substantial contribution to the housing and care of inmates in local and regional jails. According to the Compensation Board, in FY 2020, localities contributed \$605.1 million to local and regional jails and jail farms (including debt service obligations), and an additional \$15.6 million to house inmates at other jurisdictions. The Compensation Board provided funding of \$362.1 million, with other state agencies providing an additional \$2.6 million, primarily in grant funding.
- The Department of Corrections is better equipped than local and regional jails to provide intensive re-entry programming, offering more than 125 academic, job training, and therapeutic programs to offenders who are in prison and individuals under community supervision. The Department of Corrections reports that state-responsible inmates who spend their entire sentences in local or regional jails recidivate at a higher rate than offenders who spend at least part of their incarceration in a Department of Corrections facility (26.9 percent and 21 percent, respectively).

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Capitol Contact

Virginia General Assembly

Virginia Association of Counties • 1207 E. Main Street, Suite 300 • Richmond, VA 23219
www.vaco.org • 804.788.6652

The 2022 General Assembly session began last week as legislators deliberated on many issues of critical importance to local government, including the state budget, broadband, education funding, economic development, public safety, taxes and other policy matters.

VACo will continually provide updates during the session through [Capitol Contact](#). VACo Members - To ensure that you are receiving Capitol Contact, please send [Gage Harter](#) your best email address.

- **January 11, 2022:** [Treasury Releases Final Rule for Fiscal Recovery Fund Implementation](#)
- **January 13, 2022:** [2022 General Assembly Convenes](#)
- **January 18, 2022:** **CAPITOL CONTACT ALERT!** [Local Financing Authority for School Capital Construction to be Heard Tomorrow – Call Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee Members to Support](#)
- **January 18, 2022:** [Legislation Would Restrict County Taxing Authority](#)
- **January 20, 2022:** [Bills Would Impose Restrictions on Local Budget Process](#)

Year in Review: 2021

By Joe Rulison | Jan 11, 2022



It is our pleasure to share with you all of the topics we covered in 2021 with our partners across the country. The links below highlight the great work of our clients across the nation who contend with the same challenges that you do everyday.

We had some amazing developments in 2021, including but not limited to: completing the BNY Mellon Accelerator program, awarded the Texas BuyBoard contracts, as well developing a new client portal that will release the first quarter of 2022. In case you missed any of the incredible insights from 2021, those resources are recapped [at this link](#).

VACo Webinar



During this April 14th presentation you will hear from Garrett Macdonald, Vice President of cashVest® by three+one®, discusses how *cashvest® by three+one® helps counties maximize the value of every dollar on deposit.*

Andrew Newby named county attorney for Henrico



Henrico County has appointed Andrew R. Newby as county attorney.

Newby, who currently serves as a deputy county attorney for Henrico, will succeed Joseph T. “Tom” Tokarz II in the position. Tokarz is retiring after a career of more than 41 years with the County Attorney’s Office, including service in the office’s lead position since August 2020.

As county attorney, Newby will head a department with 21 staff members and a budget of \$2.7 million for the 2021-22 fiscal year. The County Attorney’s Office advises, represents and provides general legal services for the Board of Supervisors and county manager, as well as county boards, commissions, authorities and administrative agencies. The office also is responsible for interpreting state and federal laws, drafting county ordinances and resolutions and prosecuting certain violations of the Henrico County Code, including zoning and building code violations.

A member of the County Attorney’s Office staff since June 2010, Newby earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Virginia and received a juris doctorate from the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond. He is licensed to practice in the Supreme Court of Virginia, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Prior to joining Henrico’s staff, he served as a law clerk for Chesterfield County Circuit Court.

Newby currently serves as president of the Henrico County Bar Association. He and his wife, Melanie, have a daughter, Elizabeth.

Chesterfield County Utility Director Wins National Award



Chesterfield County Director of Utilities George B. Hayes, P.E. has received the 2022 National Environmental Achievement Award (NEAA) for Utility Leadership from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA).

Honoring his exemplary commitment to our community, the environment and challenges faced by utilities, Hayes was one of only two individuals nationally recognized for his utility leadership from the NACWA this year.

Hayes has worked for Chesterfield since 2006, including the past seven years as utilities director. After starting his career with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection in 1992, he moved to Virginia and served as Henrico County's Water Distribution Engineer from 1996 through 2000 and its Construction Division Director from 2000 to 2005 prior to his arrival in Chesterfield.

Active in numerous professional and civic organizations, Hayes serves as the President of the Virginia Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies (VAMWA) and is a founding member of the Board of Directors for the Virginia Municipal Drinking Water Association (VMDWA).

Hayes' innovative leadership and environmental stewardship is demonstrated through his active engagement with regulators regarding proposed changes and the numerous programs and projects completed by Chesterfield County under his guidance.



Women and retirement

Get to know the diverse financial challenges that women face as they prepare for retirement, including paying for health care costs and long-term care and the potential for outliving assets.

We can help you prepare for what's next with insights on important topics, such as Social Security, health care and long-term care.

This material is not a recommendation to buy or sell a financial product or to adopt an investment strategy. Investors should discuss their specific situation with their financial professional.



Lynn Robinette
434-534-5673
lynn.robinette@nationwide.com



Selmon Robinson
540-505-4406
robins26@nationwide.com



Join us for a Women & Retirement Webinar on February 1, 2022 from 12:00 to 1:00 PM.

Women & Retirement Webinar
February 1, 2022
12:00 to 1:00 PM.

Nationwide in partnership with the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) brings you this informative webinar geared toward women and their unique retirement planning needs. Presented by Roberta Eckert, VP of Nationwide Retirement Institute.

Follow up the webinar by discussing your plan with Retirement Specialists, Lynn and Selmon.



To register for the webinar, scan this code or visit
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4936749351876901644>.

NRM-13394M1.1 (08/21)



Nationwide®

Information provided by Retirement Specialists is for educational purposes only and not intended as investment advice. Nationwide Retirement Specialists and plan representatives are Registered Representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation (NISC), member FINRA, Columbus, Ohio.

Nationwide and the Nationwide N and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2021 Nationwide



VAcorp Public Officials Liability Coverage Review Webinar

February 8 | [Registration Link!](#)

If you have ever wondered what VAcorp's Public Official Liability ("POL") coverage entails, you won't want to miss this upcoming live webinar. Please join us on **Tuesday, February 8 from 10-11 am** when General Counsel, Nancy Sullivan, will walk you through what POL coverage is and what protection it affords your entity and staff. There will be time to ask questions during the presentation.

Register [here](#) (or copy this link into your browser: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VAcorp_POL_Review) You will receive a link to join the day before the live session, which will be recorded and posted on [VAcorp.org](https://www.vacorp.org) shortly after.

Feel free to share this with interested staff members that work directly with your coverage and risk management program so they may register to attend.

Please mark your calendar! We hope to see you on February 8!

Interested in the Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management?



Attend an info session. Get your questions answered.

During these info sessions, we will review the benefits and opportunities available through the local government program; course requirements, and the connection to our MPA program (electives and course substitutions).

- **February 15, 2022:** 12pm-1pm | Register to attend: [Click here](#)
- **March 15, 2022:** 12pm-1pm | Register to attend: [Click here](#)
- **April 12, 2022:** 12pm-1pm | Register to attend: [Click here](#)
- **May 10, 2022:** 12pm-1pm | Register to attend: [Click here](#)

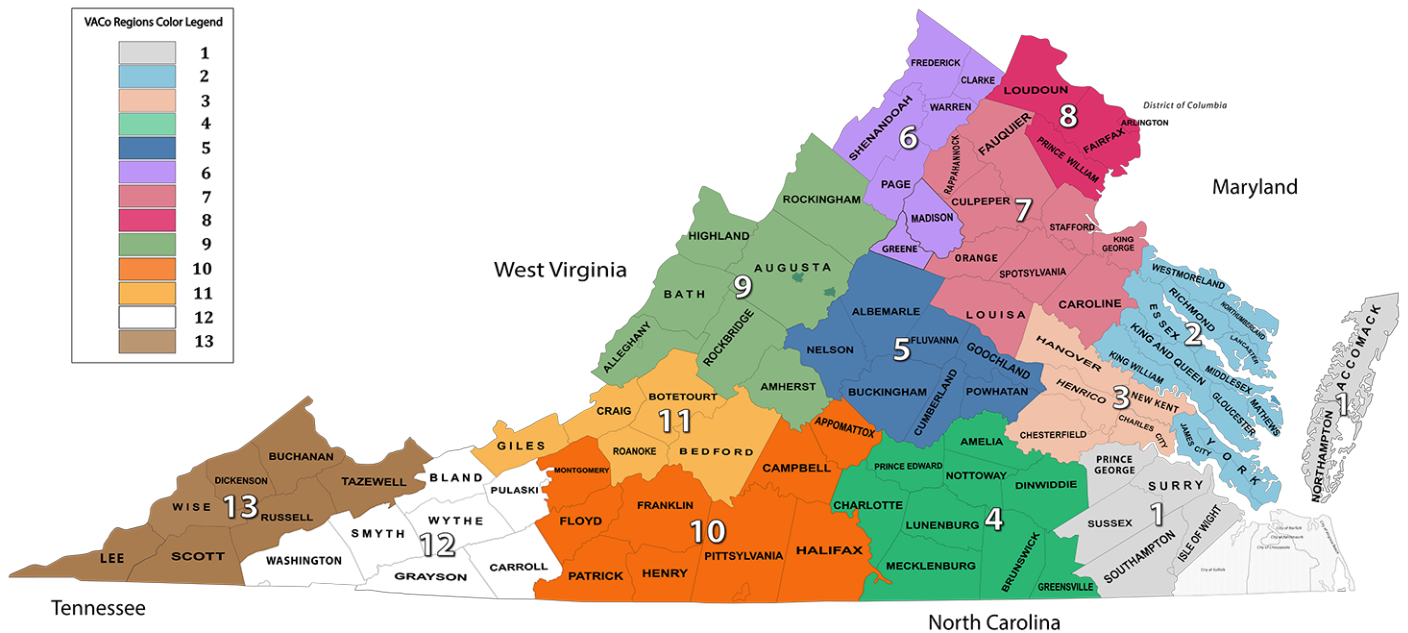
About the Program

The Virginia Tech Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP), in partnership with the Virginia Local Government Management Association, offers a graduate [certificate program in local government management](#) that provides the next generation of local government managers and leaders with the tools to advance their careers and to provide exceptional leadership within the communities where they work.

The central goal of the program is to offer graduate-level training in local government management that both prepares pre-career students for capable public service at the local level and enhances the capacities of existing local government employees who aspire to be town, city, or county managers or assistant/deputy managers, department directors or others.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Davis, sddavis@vt.edu or 804-980-5549.

Virginia Association of Counties Regions



Revised 3/15/17

1207 E. Main Street, Suite 300 • Richmond, VA • 23219-3627
www.vaco.org



Share your thoughts to the VACo Region Reapportionment Committee

VACo's reapportionment committee has been formed under the leadership of Chair Steve Bowen and Vice Chair Penny Gross and is in the process of collecting information to assist in the reapportionment process. The committee seeks your input on regional representation on the VACo Board of Directors.

Please share your thoughts by [clicking on this link](#) and filling out the form.

VACo releases its 2022 Legislative Priorities

**Click on the cover to read the 2022
VACo Legislative Priorities**



2022 VACo LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



Premier Partner Spotlight Qualtrics



Qualtrics

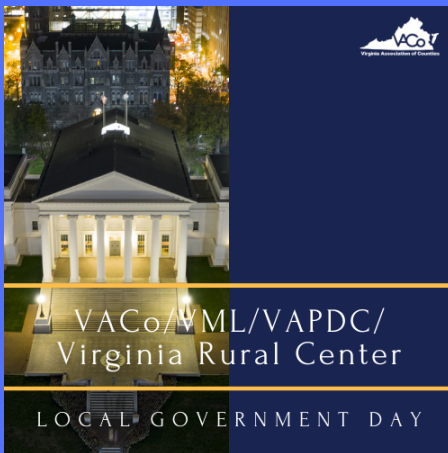
More than 250 government agencies across all 50 states use Qualtrics to improve the citizen experience, increase employee engagement, improve their reputation and to boost public trust in government by utilizing their robust research, cloud-based, platform. Qualtrics is also ECOS approved in Virginia. Please watch as Dean Lynch and Jeff Steinberg discuss the many different applications of Qualtrics for government organizations.

For more information, please visit www.qualtrics/government.com.

Watch the [Premier Partner Video](#)

VACo/VML/VAPDC/
Virginia Rural Center

Local Government Day

VACo/VML/VAPDC/
Virginia Rural Center

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DAY

www.vaco.org

Event Details

LOCATION

Omni Richmond Hotel

TIME & DATE

Thursday, February 3, 2022

COST - PLEASE CHECK BOX BELOW

\$100 Day Briefing only (Noon-2pm) ☐\$100 Reception only (530pm) ☐\$150 for both | \$175 late registration ☐

AGENDA

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 9am | VACo Board of Directors |
| 11am | Registration |
| 1130am | Lunch |
| Noon | Local Government Day |
| Afternoon | Visit the Capitol to speak with legislators |
| 530pm | Reception |

Hotel Reservation Details: Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. Local Government Day is held at the Omni Richmond Hotel, 100 South 12th Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates start at \$162 (single room occupancy). To reserve a hotel room, call 804.344.7000 by January 24, 2022, with this code: **Government Legislative Day 2022 Group** or reserve a room at this [Omni Richmond Hotel link](#).

FAX COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM WITH CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO 804.788.0083.

OR PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VACo.

MAIL CHECK AND REGISTRATION FORM TO 1207 EAST MAIN STREET, RICHMOND, VA 23219.

REGISTRATION

NAME

TITLE

COUNTY/ORGANIZATION

EMAIL

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

NAME ON CARD

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Refund Policy: Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by January 14, 2022. Substitutions are allowed in the event a supervisor is unable to attend. For more information, call VACo at 804.788.6652.

Thursday, February 3, 2022 | [Omni Richmond Hotel](#) | [REGISTRATION FORM](#) | [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Local Government Day

It's a day for all of us. Counties. Cities. Towns. Planning Districts. It's a day for us to learn how the decisions being made by the General Assembly might affect us. And it's a day to make our voices heard. Attend Local Government Day. Then visit the Capitol to meet with your legislators and observe committee meetings. Later join us for a reception.

Register Today for Local Government Day!

[Click here](#) for more information.



Celebrate Your County's Most Innovative Programs

2022 NACo Achievement Awards

Applications are now open for the National Association of Counties (NACo) [2022 Achievement Awards](#). Please join us in celebrating 52 years of county innovation by applying today.

Since 1970, the NACo Achievement Awards have recognized outstanding county government programs and services. Through a non-competitive application process, noteworthy programs receive awards in 18 categories that cover a vast range of county responsibilities. By participating, your county can earn national recognition.

NACo will highlight the 18 “best of category” winners, as well as feature all winners in NACo materials and online. We also provide a customizable press release for you to share the good news with the media and residents.

We encourage all counties, parishes and boroughs to apply.

EARLY BIRD APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 4, 2022 (save \$25 off the application fee)

REGULAR APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 31, 2022

For more information, please review the Achievement Awards [online brochure](#), or email awards@naco.org with any questions.

[APPLY TODAY](#)

VACo and VML Host Webinar on Opioid Litigation Settlement and Opioid Abatement Fund



VACo along with VML hosted representatives from the Office of the Attorney General, local government attorneys, and law firms involved in litigation with opioid manufacturers and distributors for a webinar on October 25 to inform localities about participation in the \$26 billion national settlement with Janssen (a manufacturer of opioids) and several opioid distributors. Virginia stands to receive approximately \$530 million over the course of the settlement period, with the exact amount dependent on participation by local governments. Local governments must join the settlement by January 2, 2022, to receive funds; participation requires a locality to adopt resolutions approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth and entering into the settlement agreement.

Under the terms of the settlement, 15 percent of the funds will be distributed to participating localities and are not restricted in their use, 15 percent will be distributed to participating localities for abatement purposes, 15 percent will remain with the Commonwealth, and 55 percent will be deposited to the Opioid Abatement Fund, which was established in the 2021 legislative session.

The Opioid Abatement Fund, which will be administered by the Opioid Abatement Authority, will divide its funds as follows: 15 percent to participating localities, 35 percent to participating localities' regional partnerships, 15 percent to state agencies, and 35 percent for any of the preceding purposes or for administrative expenses. The statute creating the Authority states that its purpose is "to abate and remediate the opioid epidemic in the Commonwealth through financial support from the Fund, in the form of grants, donations, or other assistance, for efforts to treat, prevent, and reduce opioid use disorder and the misuse of opioids in the Commonwealth." The Honorable James Holland, Chair of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, serves on the Board of Directors of the Authority.

A recording of the October 25 webinar as well as the slide presentation and sample resolutions to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and participation in the settlement may be found on VACo's website at this link: <https://www.vaco.org/legislative/virginia-opioid-abatement-information/>.

VACo Contacts: [Katie Boyle](#) and [Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE](#)



SAVE THE DATE!

VACo Supervisors' Forum

Friday, April 29, 2022 and Saturday, April 30, 2022
Omni Richmond Hotel



Registration is now open for the 2022 NACo Legislative Conference

February 12–16, 2022 | Washington Hilton | Washington, D.C.

Thank you for registering for the [2022 National Association of Counties \(NACo\) Legislative Conference](#). **The mayor of the District of Columbia has issued a COVID vaccination mandate for all patrons entering indoor facilities, including conference venues.** Per the D.C. mayoral requirement, all NACo Legislative Conference attendees must show proof of vaccination to enter meeting spaces, hotel common areas, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, gyms and other facilities included in the order. [Click here](#) to read the order and learn more at coronavirus.dc.gov/vaxdc.

REGISTRATION

Register today to secure early bird rates and hotel availability.

[REGISTER TODAY](#) | [VIEW SCHEDULE](#)

QUESTIONS?

We're happy to help. Contact nacomeetings@naco.org or call 202-942-4292.

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.

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=RnmFDYIHKol>



www.eecomputing.com/events



www.eecomputing.com

info@eecomputing.com

833-720-7770



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.bgllc.net

VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

EIGHTH EDITION, 2019

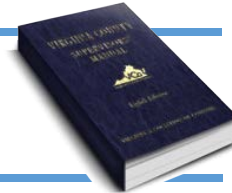


ORDER YOURS TODAY
\$75 EACH

(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.

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



RESILIENCE PLANNER

Plan RVA | Posted January 20



PRINCIPAL DATA

MANAGER | Plan RVA | Posted January 20



WASTEWATER

OPERATOR III / WASTEWATER OPERATOR II | New Kent County | Posted January 20



ADMINISTRATIVE

ASSISTANT - GREETER PT | Hanover County | Posted January 20



UTILITY FIELD AGENT

Hanover County | Posted January 20



BUILDING CODES

COMBINATION INSPECTOR | City of Harrisonburg | Posted January 19



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

TRANSPORTATION

PLANNER (II-III) | Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission | Posted January 19



DEPUTY COURT CLERK

Montgomery County | Posted January 19



CARTOGRAPHER

Montgomery County | Posted January 19



PERMIT TECHNICIAN

Fauquier County | Posted January 18



AUTOMATION

SPECIALIST | Chesterfield County | Posted January 17



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS - BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Prince William County | Posted January 14



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

MANAGER | Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission | Posted January 14



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

REGIONAL PLANNER

II-III | Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission | Posted January 14



GRANT PROGRAM

MANAGER: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted January 14



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR | Louisa County | Posted January 14



FIRE CHIEF

Town of West Point | Posted January 14



DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL

SERVICES | Roanoke County | Posted January 14



PART-TIME LIBRARY

SPECIALIST - CHILDREN SERVICES | Gloucester County | Posted January 13



LIBRARY SPECIALIST -

FT BOOKMOBILE | Gloucester County | Posted January 13



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Southeastern Public Service Authority (SPSA) | Posted January 13



PERMIT TECHNICIAN

Hanover County | Posted January 13



**WATER TREATMENT
PLANT OPERATOR OR TRAINEE** |
Gloucester County | Posted January 13



**LIBRARY SERVICES
SPECIALIST** | Montgomery County
| Posted January 12



**MAINTENANCE WORKER
II (SANITATION)** | Isle of Wight
County | Posted January 12



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-
PLANNING & ZONING** | Isle of Wight
County | Posted January 12



**COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICER** | NRV Emergency
Communications Regional Authority
| Posted January 12



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE |
Fluvanna County | Posted January 12



**PERMIT TECHNICIAN I or
II** | City of Alexandria | Posted January
10



**ELECTRICAL PLANS
EXAMINER (I, II, III, or IV)** | City of
Alexandria | Posted January 10



**SENIOR PLANNER-
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING &
RESEARCH TEAM** | Chesterfield
County | Posted January 10



**PROGRAM
COORDINATOR II-SOCIAL SERVICES** |
Hanover County | Posted January 10



**BENEFIT PROGRAMS
SPECIALIST** | Hanover County
| Posted January 10



**FAMILY SERVICES
SPECIALIST** | Hanover County
| Posted January 10



**DEVELOPMENT
PLANNER** | Montgomery County
| Posted January 10



**HUMAN RESOURCES
DIRECTOR** | City of Hopewell | Posted
January 10



**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATOR** |
Greene County | Posted January 10



EMS SUPERVISOR |
Greene County | Posted January 10



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
ADMINISTRATION, RECREATION
PROGRAMS & SERVICES** | City of
Fredericksburg | Posted January 10



**COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR** | Southampton
County | Posted January 10



UTILITIES ENGINEER |
Chesterfield County | Posted January 7



**FACILITIES TECHNICIAN
III** | Gloucester County | Posted
January 6



**DIRECTOR OF
FINANCE** | Madison County | Posted
January 5



**TECHNOLOGY
SUPPORT SPECIALIST I** |
Montgomery County | Posted January
5



**DEPUTY CLERK
I-CIVIL** | King William County | Posted
January 5

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



President
Meg Bohmke
Stafford County



President-Elect
Jason D. Bellows
Lancaster County



First Vice President
Ann H. Mallek
Albemarle County



Second Vice President
Ruth Larson
James City County



Secretary-Treasurer
Donald L. Hart, Jr.
Accomack County



Immediate Past President
Jeffrey C. McKay
Fairfax County

VACo STAFF

Executive Director | Dean A. Lynch, CAE
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs | Jeremy R. Bennett
Director of Government Affairs | Katie Boyle
General Counsel | Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE
Director of Communications | A. Gage Harter
Director of Technical Services | John N. Kandris, A+, ACT, CCA
Director of Local Government Policy | Joe Lerch, AICP
Administrative Secretary | Valerie M. Russell
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

County Connections is a semimonthly publication.

