

General Assembly Will Return April 4 for Special Session



On March 23, Governor Youngkin issued a proclamation calling legislators into a special session, which will convene April 4, to address the unfinished items remaining from the 2022 regular session, chiefly the 2022-2024 biennium budget. In addition to the caboose and budget bills, 45 bills await final resolution. These bills were in conference committees, or were awaiting adoption of an agreed-upon conference report by one or both chambers, when the regular session adjourned on Saturday, March 12. Among the bills in conference are the House and Senate grocery tax proposals. Prior to adjourning on March 12, both chambers agreed to a resolution providing for legislation pending in conference committees to be continued to the special session.

More details on the scope and timeline of the special session will likely be available soon. Traditionally, a procedural resolution adopted on the first day of the special session sets out the topics that may be addressed during the special session and establishes a schedule for the conduct of business. VACo will continue to provide updates as information becomes available.

VACo Contact: [VACo Legislative Team](#)

Enter the VACo 2022 Achievement Awards



Dear VACo Members –

It's time for the 2022 Achievement Awards Program. Any county department is eligible to compete so ENTER NOW!

[Achievement Awards Submission Form](#)

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

Submissions must be received by July 1, 2022.

Last year, [we processed 102 entries](#) and selected 30 winners from 19 Counties. VACo presented awards at 19 Board of Supervisors Meetings, recognized winners at the 87th Annual Conference, and issued a news release to statewide media.

The judges for the 2022 Achievement Awards will be announced soon.

VACo has received close to 1,000 entries over the past decade. Last year's Best Achievement winner was Henrico County for its "Equity Ambassadors" program.

VACo encourages all Counties, big and small, to enter the 2022 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact gcharter@vaco.org with questions or for more information.

[Achievement Awards Submission Form](#) | [Achievement Awards Website](#) | [2021 Achievement Awards Press Release](#) | [Browse all of the 2021 Entries](#) | [Past Achievement Award Winners](#)



Drinking Water Funds for Localities Webinar

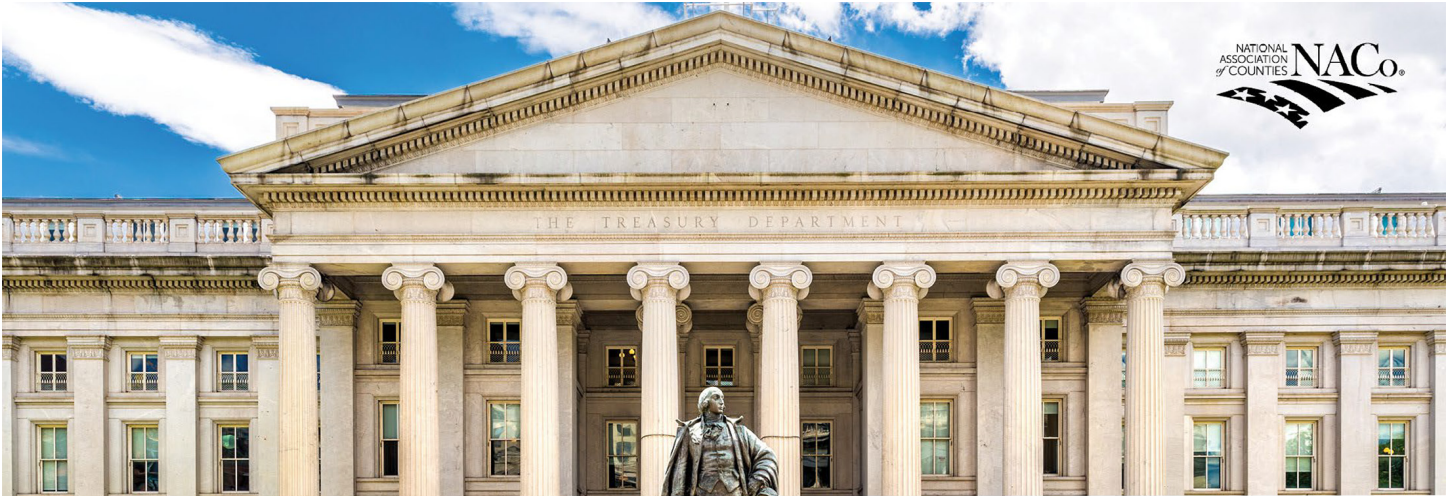
[Register here](#)

Virginia Department of Health – Office of Drinking Water (VDH-ODW) has ARPA funds remaining with more coming from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Join Barry E. Matthews, CPG, Director – Division of Training, Capacity Development and Outreach for a discussion of how these funds can be best distributed to local governments.

This will be a free virtual event on Wednesday, March 30 from 1 PM – 2 PM.

This event is hosted by the **Virginia Municipal League** in cooperation with the **Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions**, the **Virginia Association of Counties**, and the **Virginia Municipal Drinking Water Association**.



PRESENTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

OVERVIEW OF U.S. TREASURY FINAL RULE FOR ARPA FISCAL RECOVERY FUND



MARCH 22, 2022

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is pleased to release a refreshed presentation on the [U.S. Treasury's Final Rule for the ARPA Fiscal Recovery Fund](#).

The updated analysis includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Deeper dive on the provisions around *revenue loss* allocations, including for the new standard allowance up to \$10M and for those counties using Treasury's formula to calculate their *revenue loss* above \$10M
- Clarifying information on eligible/ineligible uses, including for capital expenditures
- Treatment of loans
- Reporting requirements and background information on federal Uniform Guidance/2 CFR Part 200

Additionally, we wanted to make sure you and your members are aware of other relevant information pertaining to the upcoming Project and Expenditure (P&E) Report deadline on April 30, 2022.

- **One-time revenue loss election:** Counties will have the option to make a one-time decision to calculate *revenue loss* according to the formula outlined in the final rule **OR** elect the \$10 million *revenue loss* standard allowance, not to exceed the county's award allocation. **The option to make this one-time decision will be provided on the April 30 P&E Report.**
- **Treasury acceptance of Project & Expenditure Reports:** Treasury is now only accepting Project and Expenditure Reports from Tier 1, 2 and 3 recipients.
- For Tier 4 (Tribal govts with less than \$30 million) and Tier 5 counties with a **population below 250,000 residents AND received less than \$10 million in Recovery Funds**, the first P&E Report is also due April 30, 2022, and then annually thereafter. **HOWEVER, the Treasury submission portal is not yet open for recipients to submit a report. Treasury is likely to open the portal for this group by the end of month**
- **Expenditure categories:** Updated reporting guidance contains an expanded set of Expenditure Categories to reflect the broader flexibility introduced by the final rule. **Counties who submitted Project and Expenditure Reports in January will have the opportunity to update their previously selected Expenditure Category, if appropriate.**
- **Capital expenditures:** Updated reporting guidance states that additional programmatic data for capital expenditures is optional in the April 2022 P&E Report and required for the July 2022 P&E Report.

Counties can access the Reporting Guidance for the Recovery Fund on Treasury's [Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds website](#). To see a concise summary of the final rule for the Recovery Fund, please see the [Overview Document](#).



Visit Allegheny County and the Allegheny County Courthouse

Location: 266 West Main Street / North Monroe Street

Built: 1910 – 1911

Style: Classical Revival

Architect: C A Robinson

Contractor: George Leigh & Brothers

Description: The building faces southeast and is a two story stone structure. The building is located on landscaped grounds in the center of Covington. The building is constructed with random-coursed, quarry-faced limestone blocks. The southeast front has a large portico with four Doric columns rising to a pediment at the roof line. There are east and west wings which are lower than the main building. The second story windows are arched. In the interior, central stairs ascend to the second story courtroom. The building houses the County Circuit Court, County General District Court and County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of the 25th Judicial Circuit. On the southwest side is the large stone Allegheny County Jail. The building was altered in 1940 and the architect was T J Collins and Son. In 2003, an addition was added to the jail.

SOURCE: [American Courthouses](#) | [Courthouses.co](#)



IT'S TIME TO HIT THE
ROAD FOR THE...
**VACo 2022
REGIONAL
MEETINGS**

IN-PERSON MEETING

REGIONS 2&3 – MAY 23 | HENRICO

REGIONS 1&4 – TBA | DINWIDDIE

REGIONS 5&7 – TBA | FLUVANNA

REGIONS 6&9 – TBA | AUGUSTA

REGIONS 10&11 – TBA

REGIONS 12&13 – TBA

VIRTUAL MEETING

REGIONS 6&7&8 – TBA

PLAN 2022-2023

As you plan your budget and build your Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2022-2023, the Berkley Group offers localities the following services:

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- Executive Recruitment
- Pay & Classification Studies
- Job Description & Employee Handbook Updates
- Organizational Strategic Assessments
- Capital Improvement Planning

STRATEGY & ENGAGEMENT

- Board & Staff Retreats
- Strategic Planning
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- Community & Stakeholder Engagement
- Public Meeting Facilitation

PLANNING

- Comprehensive Plans
- Zoning & Subdivision Ordinance Updates
- Historic Preservation Planning
- Mapping & GIS
- Project Planning, Development & Management

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

- Resilience Plans
- Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Envision Assessments
- Renewable Energy Diagnostics & Policy Updates
- Solar & Wind Third-Party Application Reviews

DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS

- Interim Executive Management Services
- Planning & Zoning
- Human Resources
- Finance
- Emergency Management

REQUEST ASSISTANCE

The Berkley Group is the go-to local government consultant for Virginia counties. Contact us at info@bgllc.net for any of your local government needs.



New County Administrator named in Mathews

BY SHERRY HAMILTON
GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS GAZETTE-JOURNAL



The Mathews County Board of Supervisors unanimously appointed Ramona Carter as county administrator following a closed session on Wednesday, March 9.

Carter, who has served as Powhatan County's Director of Public Works for more than six years, will begin her position with Mathews on April 4 at a salary of \$140,000.

Supervisors' chairman Paul Hudgins said that Carter is accustomed to working in a small county and will be good for Mathews. He praised her for her excellent qualifications and personality.

"She's friendly, and you can tell she's going to work well with people, and that's half the job," he said. "I am sure the citizens will be pleased."

Hudgins said that it had been hard on the staff to serve under three different interim administrators, and he said the board is pleased that things can now return to normal.

"She's coming at a good time," he said. "Budget season is about to take off, and she can help."

Carter is engaged to be married in two weeks, and she and her fiancé, Jack Wilson Jr., will be living in Deltaville, where he owns a home. Hudgins said the board did not ask that the couple live in Mathews because board members did not want them to go through the financial hardship of buying a home. However, he said the board made it clear that they wanted Carter to be involved in the community, and she agreed.

Carter, whose last name will change to Wilson soon, has two adult children, a 26-year-old son and a 24-year-old daughter.

In a brief telephone interview, Carter said she was introduced to the Middle Peninsula a little over a year ago, and she fell in love with the people and the natural beauty of the area.

"I'm excited about being a part of the great team in Mathews and about serving the citizens of Mathews County," she said.

Qualifications

Carter comes to Mathews with 25 years of experience in managing, designing, and overseeing utilities projects in both the public and private sector. According to her resume, she has been the Powhatan County's Director of Public Works since 2015. She has also served the county as Acting County Administrator. Before that, she served for seven years as Assistant Director of Field Operations for the Western Virginia Water Authority. Prior to coming to Virginia in 2004, she lived and worked in British Columbia, Canada, and Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

A native of Canada, Carter holds a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. She moved to the U.S. in 1998, and in 2014 earned a Masters of Public Administration from Walden University in Maryland. She is a Registered Professional Engineer in Virginia, West Virginia, and Arkansas and has been or currently is a member of a dozen professional or volunteer organizations, including the Virginia Rural Water Association Board, the American Public Works Association, the Alleghany YMCA Projects Committee, and the Arkansas Children's Hospital Fund Raising Committee.

Alleghany County Board of Supervisors Appoint New County Administrator

Reid Walters to Assume Position In April

Story and photo reprinted with permission from the [Alleghany Journal](#)

Low Moor, VA (March 16, 2022) - The Alleghany County Board of Supervisors is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Reid Walters as its new County Administrator. Mr. Walters is currently the Town Manager of Independence, Virginia, a position that he has held since 2018. He will replace Jon Lanford, who left to be Assistant County Administrator in Botetourt County in July of last year. At its meeting on March 16, the Board of Supervisors approved an employment agreement with Mr. Walters.

Board Chair Matt Garten said, "Although the process has taken longer than we anticipated, the Board is glad to find someone who we think will be right for the community and the County organization. We were impressed by Reid's experience as a local government manager and in particular, his past focus on economic development, infrastructure, and regional activities. The Board looks forward to working with Reid on important County and community initiatives and to further improve the county organization and its services."



The Board of Supervisors conducted a national search for the new County Administrator, assisted by The Berkley Group, of Bridgewater, Virginia. The Berkley Group received applications and conducted initial interviews with the most qualified candidates. It then assisted with selecting finalists for interviews with the Board. The Berkley Group also provided Interim County Administrator services during the transition.

Mr. Walters received Bachelor of Science degrees in Social Science Education and Political Science and History from Western Carolina University and a Master of Public Administration degree from Appalachian State University. He also has a Municipal and County Administration Certification from the UNC School of Government. In addition to his duties as Independence Town Manager, Mr. Walters has served as the Vice-Chair of the Virginia Carolina Water Authority which provides drinking water to a two-county service area in North Carolina and Virginia. Prior to his appointment in Independence, he served as Town Manager in the communities of Spencer and Bethel, North Carolina, and as an elected Alderman in the Town of Spencer. Mr. Walters also spent over a decade as a public educator and provided construction management for large-scale residential developments in the Raleigh, NC region earlier in his career. He is a member of the Virginia Local Government Management Association (VLGMA) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

Mr. Walters shared these thoughts about his appointment, "I am honored to have this opportunity to be of service to Alleghany County. The Board of Supervisors has a great vision for this community, and I look forward to helping to implement that vision. This is a special region of the Commonwealth and I believe that I can help make a positive lasting impact. I appreciate the confidence that the Board has shown in me and look forward to working for the citizens of the County and the whole Alleghany Highlands."

Mr. Walters will assume his duties as Alleghany County Administrator on May 16, 2022.

Chesterfield County Taps Neil Luther as New Director of Parks and Recreation



Following a nationwide search, Chesterfield County selected Edwin C. “Neil” Luther, IV as its new director of Parks and Recreation.

Luther, a Chesterfield resident who got his start in Parks and Recreation with the county before spending the past decade in the same position in Henrico County, will begin his new role effective March 21.

Luther returns to Chesterfield with 30 years of leadership experience in and around Parks and Recreation. He served as the director in Henrico for the last 10 years after having been an assistant director for the four years prior (2007-2011). During his time in Henrico, Luther oversaw a budget of more than \$21 million and a department that included nearly 180 full-time positions.

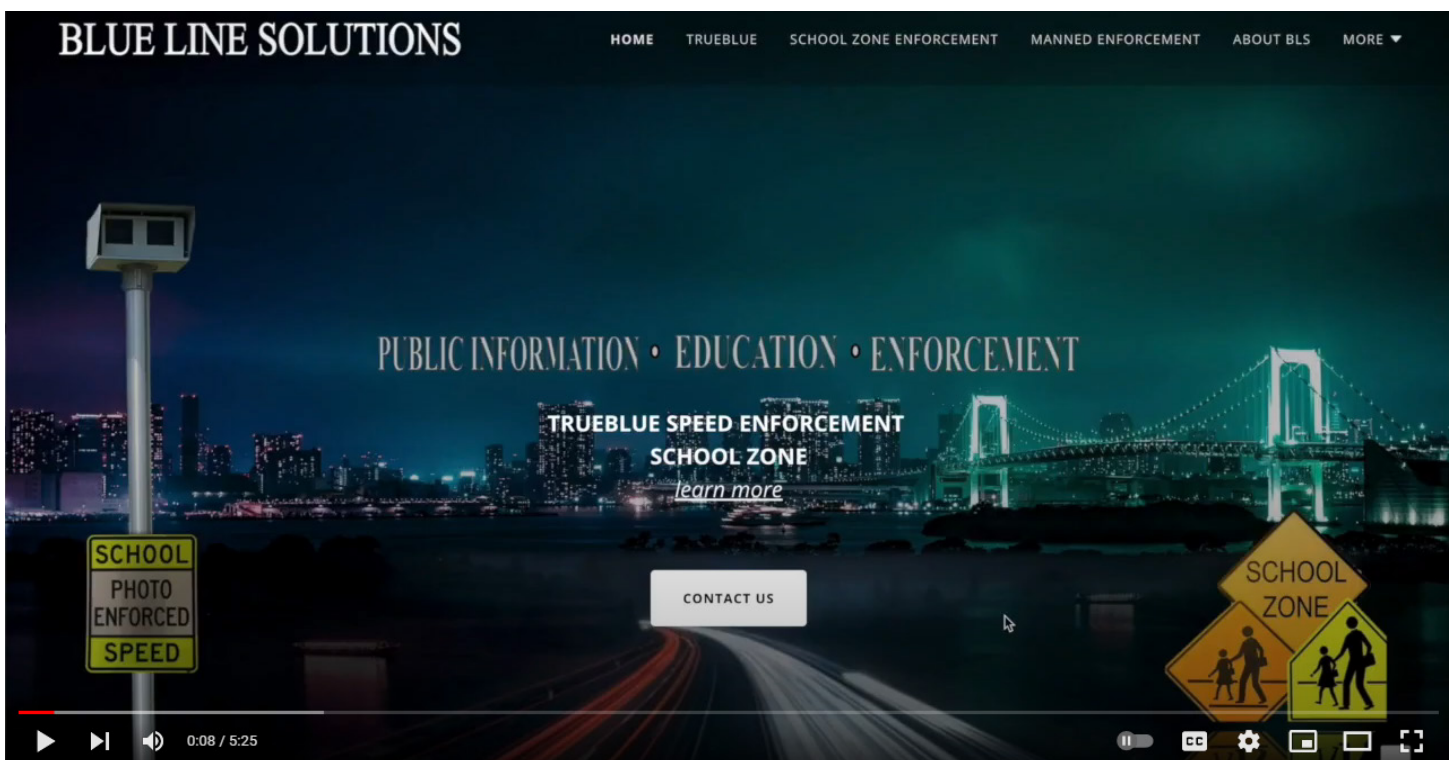
Prior to his time in Henrico, he spent five years in Charlotte where he was a park planner for the Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department from September 1997 to September 2001, when he became a principal planner with the county’s planning department until 2002.

“We’re very excited to have Neil joining the Chesterfield County team,” said Deputy County Administrator for Community Operations Clay Bowles. “His commitment to this community and wide-ranging Parks and Recreation experience will be of great benefit to the citizens of Chesterfield County.”



Premier Partner Spotlight

Blue Line Solutions



Blue Line Solutions | LIDAR

VACo's newest Premier Partner, Blue Line Solutions, offers a TrueBlue Highway Safety Program that can be implemented in School Zones and Construction Zones, where data has shown that drivers are unaware that their driving behavior is not in alignment with public safety. A key element of this program - drivers are first educated through several media outlets, that their driving patterns through these zones need to change to keep their communities safe. The education has had a profound and positive effect on driving behavior. To learn more about the public safety benefits of this program, please join VACo Executive Director, Dean Lynch, and Blue Line Solutions' Founder & CEO, Mark Hutchinson, as they dive into the data and the results.

Please contact Greg Hogston for more information: ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org or 276.759.8064 or visit <https://bluelinesolutions.org>.

Watch the [Premier Partner Video](#)



Virginia rescinds COVID-19 workplace rules

On March 21, 2022, the Virginia Safety and Health Codes Board adopted the final revocation of the Virginia Standard for Infectious Disease Prevention of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus That Causes COVID-19 (“Virginia Standard”), 16VAC25-220. The revocation became effective March 23, 2022.

The Virginia Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) is replacing the revoked standard with a new guidance document on COVID-19 entitled: [Guidance for Employers to Mitigate the Risk of COVID-19 to Workers](#). The document will be published in the Virginia Register on March 28, 2022 (Volume 38: Issue 16) for a 30-day comment period ending April 27, 2022.

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



RAISE Grants

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity

\$1.5 Billion in RAISE Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) recently published a Notice of Funding Opportunity for \$1.5 billion in grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program. Previously known as the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) and Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants, RAISE provides an opportunity for USDOT to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects. As a result of the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the \$1.5 billion in available funding for 2022 represents a 50 percent increase in available funds compared to last year, when applicants requested \$10 in funding for every \$1 available. In 2021, RAISE funded 90 projects in 47 states, the District of Columbia and Guam.

The NOFO is available [here](#). The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. on April 14, 2022, and selections will be announced no later than August 12, 2022. Applicants interested in a letter of support from Virginia Secretary of Transportation W. Sheppard Miller III should email Deputy Secretary of Transportation Jen Deci at jen.deci@governor.virginia.gov. More information on RAISE can be found [here](#).

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

VDOT Coordinating Transportation and Land Use Planning Forum

May 11, 2022 Forum

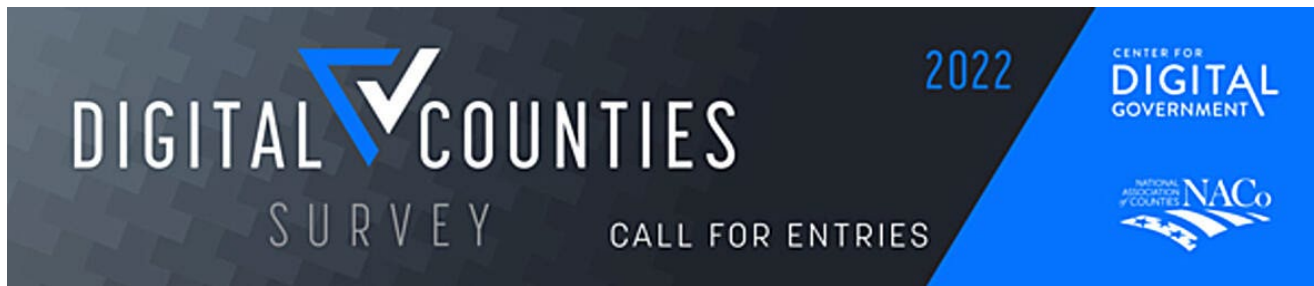


The Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Coordinating Transportation and Land Use Planning Forum will be held virtually on Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

Participants include members and staff representing Virginia localities, planning district commissions, metropolitan planning organizations, the development community and VDOT.

If you would like register for this event, [please use the registration portal](#).

Planned Forum presentations include such topics as SmartScale, Project Pipeline Program, Innovative Intersections, Autonomous Vehicles, ADA Compliance, and Pedestrian Accommodations. In the near future we will provide the entire agenda and instructions for how to access the Forum on May 11 on this site.



Call for Entries: 2022 Digital Counties Survey

The Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) are excited to announce the launch of the 20th annual Digital Counties Survey! You are invited to participate!

This is a great chance to highlight your county's accomplishments to a national audience and receive the recognition your county deserves for making technology a priority for your people

Extended Deadline: Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Watch the [informative opening webinar](#) for benefits of participation, tips on submission, and to hear how technology is being used strategically to make government better! **The survey is available online at:** www.govtech.com/cdg/digitalcounties2022. A Word version of the survey can be downloaded from the FAQs at: www.govtech.com/cdg/digitalcountiesFAQs22.

The survey is open to all U.S. counties. Technology leaders are awarded based on five population classifications. Top-ten ranked counties will be honored during an awards event to be held at NACo's annual conference July 20-24, 2022, in articles on govtech.com; on social media; and in best practices publications. As a benefit to all survey participants, we will make the aggregated data from the survey available to help you plan for the future, and benchmark with your peers.

CDG thanks the following corporate members for underwriting the survey: Premier Corporate Members Accela, Amazon Web Services, Infor, Laserfiche, Microsoft, Oracle America, Inc., and Yubico. Corporate Members: CAI, EasyVote Solutions, Pure Storage, SHI International Corp, Spectrum Enterprise, Splunk, VertiGIS, and Whyline.

If you have any questions, need assistance, or if you need information concerning the county's previous survey responses, please contact Janet Grenslitt, Director of Surveys and Awards, jgrenslitt@erepublic.com.



Broadband Together 2022 Information

Dates: May 18-19

Website: www.broadbandtogether.com

Hotel: Hilton Short Pump
12042 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23233

Booking Link: <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=RICWSHF&groupCode=VCTA22&arrivaldate=2022-05-17&departuredate=2022-05-19&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Room Rate: \$139

Registration Link: <https://fs16.formsite.com/kvoxland/i5lveb2brs/index.html>

Registration Cost: \$175

#InvestinChildCareVA



We are proud to be a member of the Virginia Promise Partnership, a coalition of 30+ leading organizations committed to quality, affordable child care for all Virginia families.

Please watch and share this video to show your support for child care!

[#VaPromise](#)

[#ChildCareIsEssential](#)

[#MoreChildrenMoreChoices](#)

[#WeNeedChildCareVA](#)

[#InvestinChildCareVA](#)

[Virginia Promise in Action - Video Campaign
Compilation - YouTube](#)

Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity

SUMMARY

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established two new programs and reauthorized one preexisting program which are being solicited together using this NOFO known as the **Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Opportunity**.
 - **Mega:** \$1 billion of FY 2022 funding for the National Infrastructure Project Assistance grants program, known as the Mega Grants program;
 - **INFRA:** Approximately \$1.55 billion in FY 2022 funding to be made available for the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects grants program, known as INFRA;
 - **Rural:** \$300 million in FY 2022 funding for the Rural Surface Transportation Grant program, known as Rural.
- DOT is combining these three programs into single NOFO to provide a more efficient application process for project sponsors. While they remain separate programs for the purposes of award, the programs share many common characteristics, including a larger project size, multimodal eligibility, and many shared statutory project requirements. Because of these shared characteristics, it is possible for many projects to be eligible and considered for multiple programs using a single application.
 - The new **Mega program:** Focused on large multimodal transportation projects, with 50% of the funding being awarded to projects greater than \$500 million in total project cost, and the remaining 50% of the funding being awarded to projects between \$100 million and \$500 million in total project costs. The Mega program will help large multimodal projects with gaps in their financial plans.
 - **The INFRA program:** At least 15% of the funds are reserved for small projects (<\$100 million) and at least 25% of the funds are reserved for rural projects. The program also includes a leverage pilot, under which \$150 million is set-aside to prioritize for projects with greater non-Federal share.
 - The new **Rural program:** Reserved for surface transportation projects in rural areas, with a minimum of 90% of all projects having a minimum \$25 million Rural grant award. The Rural program will focus on rural needs, such as improving highway safety and expanding access to rural transit service. Set asides for projects on the Appalachian Development Highway System and projects located in states with above average rural lane departure fatality rates.
- **Application Process:** While the MPDG Opportunity consists of three separate programs, **DOT will evaluate common applications for the programs using common merit criteria and considerations** to provide a more streamlined and efficient application process for project sponsors. The common set of criteria include: Safety; State of good repair; Economic impacts, freight movement, and job creation; Climate change, resiliency, and the environment; Equity, multimodal options, and quality of life; and Innovation. Additional considerations include: Cost effectiveness; Demonstrated project readiness, which includes technical assessment, financial completeness, and environmental review and permitting risk; and Geographic diversity among recipients, including a balance between the needs of urban and rural projects.



APPLICATION DEADLINE: The application deadline for Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Opportunity is Monday, May 23, 2022.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION: Applications must be submitted through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Project Sponsors with additional questions or interested in receiving additional assistance are invited to visit the Department's Grants homepage: www.transportation.gov/grants and look for Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity. The Department has published a Guide to Benefit Cost Analysis, FAQs, and will be hosting several webinars in the coming weeks.



BEGINNING IN TWO WEEKS

Celebrate National County Government Month This April

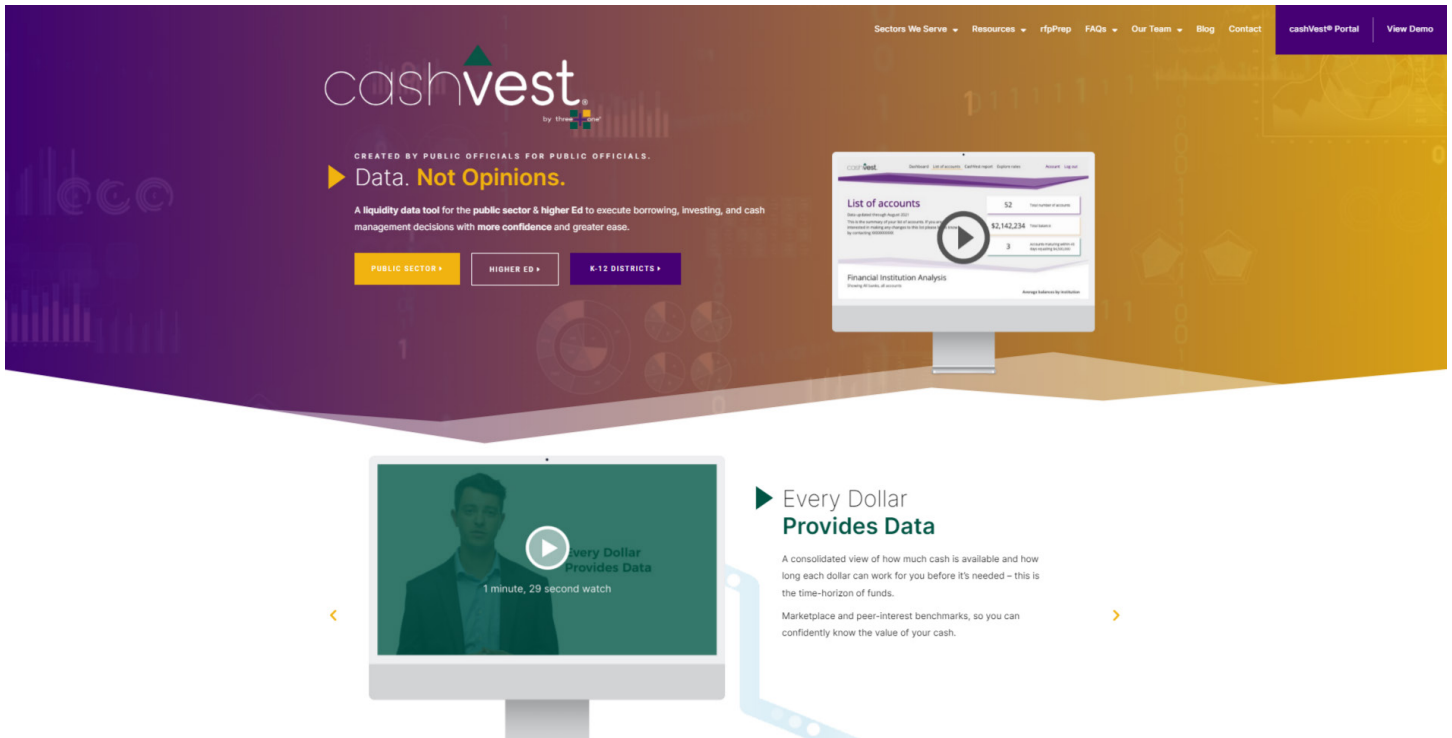
Join the National Association of Counties (NACo) in celebrating [National County Government Month \(NCGM\)](#). Held each April, NCGM is an annual celebration of county government and an excellent opportunity for counties, parishes and boroughs to highlight effective county programs and raise public awareness about services provided to the community.

Throughout April, counties have an opportunity to focus on our work to help our communities [THRIVE](#) – [this year's NCGM theme](#). Now is the time to spotlight your county's role in achieving successes at the local level and to educate the public about how counties provide real support, identifying challenges on the ground and pursuing solutions.



Watch: [NACo President Larry Johnson invites counties to celebrate NCGM](#)

[National County Government Month TOOLKIT](#)



Three+one launches new website

“We are thrilled to unveil our new three+one® website with more benefits than ever before: videos, case studies, webinars & testimonials.”

Link: www.threeplusone.us



Virginia Rural Leadership Institute

Presented By



The [Virginia Rural Leadership Institute \(VRLI\)](#) is an initiative put forward by the Virginia Rural Center. It is the first and only program in the Commonwealth that focuses entirely on retaining and attracting rural Virginians, by developing leaders who are innovative, responsible, civic minded and build strong regional communities. **Applications are due March 15.**

Over the course of four sessions, Cohort Members will receive professional leadership and economic development training that equips community leaders with the skills they need to lead long-term economic advancement in their community and region. The program also seeks to increase cooperation, collaboration, and coordination across a broad array of organizations and sectors. The sessions for the Inaugural VRLI Cohort are:

Session 1 - Southside Virginia

Bee Hotel - Danville, VA

May 12, 13, & 14

Session 2 - Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck

St. Margaret's School - Tappahannock, VA

July 14, 15, & 16

Session 3 - Southwest Virginia

Jackson Park Inn - Pulaski, VA

September 15 & 16

Western Front Hotel - Saint Paul, VA

September 16 & 17

Session 4 - Shenandoah Valley

Blackburn Inn - Staunton, VA

November 17, 18, & 19

For more information about VRLI, please email:

Chris Atkins

VRLI Program Director

VaRuralLeadership@gmail.com



Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI)

2023 VATI Guidelines and Criteria Input Sessions

The [Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development \(DHCD\)](#) will host two public input sessions to discuss the proposed 2023 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) guidelines and criteria, which will be released and posted on the [VATI webpage](#) on April 1, 2022.

The first session will be held on April 7, and the second will be held on April 19. The input sessions will be held virtually using Google Meets. A call-in option will also be available.

Representatives from units of local government, internet service providers (ISPs) and other interested stakeholders are encouraged to participate.

Registration is required to participate in the sessions.

The meeting access link will be sent out to registrants via email prior to the scheduled session. DHCD will also be accepting written public comments submitted through a fillable form that will be available on the [VATI webpage](#).

The public comment period closes on **May 2, 2022**.

DHCD will award grants to eligible applicants to provide last-mile services to unserved areas of the Commonwealth. The budget is subject to final approval of the 2022-2023 state budget and allocation of federal funds to be managed and awarded through the VATI grant making process.

If you have any questions, contact Deserae Saunders-Austin at (804) 840-4101 or email vati@dhcd.virginia.gov.

Input Session Dates

April 7, 2022 | 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

April 19, 2022 | 12 noon - 2 p.m.

The meeting access link will be sent to registrants prior to the scheduled session.

REGISTER NOW

Government Relations Advocate



The Virginia Association of Counties seeks a dynamic individual with experience and interest in government relations advocacy. Knowledge of local, state, and federal government process including legislative, executive, and regulatory processes preferred. Strong analytical, oral advocacy and writing skills and a willingness to cover various subject matters required. Problem-solving skills to define issues and collect relevant information to recommend policy solutions important. A proven ability to conceptualize, interpret and articulate positions or ideas.

Experience in government affairs and public policy analysis and processes desired. Preference for local or state government relation experience or understanding of local government operations and policies particularly within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Knowledge of environmental, human services, education, administration of government, land use, tax, finance, and transportation issues helpful. Flexibility and ability to work under time constraints and deadlines, and to perform multiple tasks required.

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with course work that includes public administration, political science, communications, policy analysis or a related field preferred. Please provide resume, writing sample references and salary requirements to Virginia Association of Counties, 1207 East Main Street Richmond, VA, 23219 or vrussell@vaco.org by April 1, 2022.



Leadership Development That Works

The Professional Development Academy is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective, and efficient way to make your leaders better. - General Colin Powell

Register today for the 2022 NACo Leadership Academy Dates

Visit naco.org/skills to register

Acknowledging State Graduates from NACo Leadership Academy

Eighteen Virginia County staff members participated in the NACo Leadership Academy, a 12-week online program that empowers front-line county government employees with fundamental leadership skills. Across the country, 4,500 county employees participated.

Virginia County staff to complete the Academy are:

- **Timothy Heck**, Assistant Director, Campbell County
- **William "Billy" Ferguson**, Director of Public Safety, Franklin County
- **Kenneth Parker**, Programs Coordinator, Greensville County
- **Jamie Orrison**, Recreation Enterprise Manager, Prince William County
- **Vernon Payne**, Sports Services Manager, Prince William County
- **Sara Wheeler**, Division Manager, Prince William County
- **Jennifer Chitwood**, Technical Services Supervisor, Roanoke County
- **Bill Dingus**, Director of Public Works, Scott County
- **Shenandra Usher**, Assistant CFO for Operations, Albemarle County
- **Tara Smith**, Senior Library Assistant, Youth Services, Roanoke County
- **Sherry Bowman**, Division Manager, Prince William County
- **Grace Boone**, Director General and Capital Services Department, James City County
- **Paul Santay**, Director of Citizen and Community Development, Stafford County
- **Betsy Strawderman**, Deputy Director, Prince William County
- **Roderick Burton**, Director of Information Technology, Albemarle County
- **Hashim Taylor**, Recreation Program Manager, Prince William County

Congratulations to all these individuals who completed the program. To learn more about the Academy, [visit the NACo website here](https://naco.org/skills). Enrollment is now open for 2022.

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).

- **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.



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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.

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REGULAR APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 31, 2022

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

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- 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

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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).



**GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS ADVOCATE** | VACo
| Posted March 25




**EMERGENCY VEHICLE
TECHNICIAN** | Chesterfield County
| Posted March 25




**ENVIRONMENTAL
INSPECTOR** | King George County
| Posted March 25




**181-177 CROSSROADS MARKETING
AND COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER** |
Mount Rogers Regional Partnership
| Posted March 25



**181-177 CROSSROADS REGIONAL
TALENT SOLUTIONS MANAGER** |
Mount Rogers Regional Partnership
| Posted March 25



**DISTRICT
SUPERVISOR** | City of Chesapeake
| Posted March 23



**CLINICIAN (CD) - ADULT
OUTPATIENT** | Hanover County
| Posted March 23



**REAL ESTATE
APPRAISER** | Hanover County
| Posted March 23



**ENGINEERING
MANAGER** | Hanover County | Posted
March 23



CHIEF PLANNER |
Loudoun County | Posted March 22



**FAMILY SERVICES
SPECIALIST** | Montgomery County
| Posted March 22



PROBATION OFFICER |
Hanover County | Posted March 22



**ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT - FIRE/EMS** | Hanover
County | Posted March 22




PLANNER II | Frederick
County | Posted March 21



**EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES** | Spotsylvania
County | Posted March 21



CONTRACT MANAGER |
Hanover County | Posted March 21




UTILITY OPERATOR |
Montgomery County | Posted March
21



**ENGINEERING
TECHNICIAN** | Loudoun County
| Posted March 18



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** | Roanoke
County | Posted March 18



LIFEGUARD |
Montgomery County | Posted March
18



**COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR** | Nelson County
| Posted March 18



**HUMAN RESOURCES
BUSINESS PARTNER - BENEFITS** |
City of Manassas | Posted March 18



CONTRACT MANAGER |
Albemarle County | Posted March 18



ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY | King George County
| Posted March 18



CYBERSECURITY & COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST | City of Harrisonburg | Posted March 17



DIRECTOR, INFORMATION SERVICES | Colonial Behavioral Health | Posted March 17



PURCHASING OFFICER |
Fluvanna County | Posted March 17



PLANNER | Warren County | Posted March 17



ASSISTANT COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY I | Gloucester County | Posted March 16



UTILITY MAINTENANCE WORKER | Gloucester County | Posted March 16



FIREFIGHTER/ PARAMEDIC FOR QUICK RESPONSE VEHICLE PART TIME | Rappahannock County | Posted March 16



HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALIST | Rappahannock County | Posted March 16



UTILITY FIELD CREW FOREMAN (PUMP STATION CREW FOREMAN) | Spotsylvania County | Posted March 16



COASTAL RESILIENCE ANALYST/PLANNER | Hampton Roads PDC | Posted March 15



COMMUNICATION'S OFFICER | Prince George County | Posted March 15



DEPUTY SHERIFF | Prince George County | Posted March 15



PERMIT TECHNICIAN II | Prince George County | Posted March 15



SENIOR BUILDING INSPECTOR | Prince George County | Posted March 15



DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE | Prince George County | Posted March 15



KENNEL ATTENDANT | Prince George County | Posted March 15



UTILITY PROJECT ENGINEER | Prince George County | Posted March 15



POLICE OFFICER (CERTIFIED) | Prince George County | Posted March 15



DIVISION DIRECTOR, LDS/SW COMPLIANCE-PERMITS APPLICATIONS & CODE ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR | Fairfax County | Posted March 14



COMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATOR | Hampton Roads PDC | Posted March 14



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & TITLE VI/CIVIL RIGHTS COORDINATOR | Hampton Roads PDC | Posted March 14



WATER RESOURCES PLANNER/ENGINEER III | Hampton Roads PDC | Posted March 14



CERTIFIED POLICE OFFICER | Town of Amherst | Posted March 11

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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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