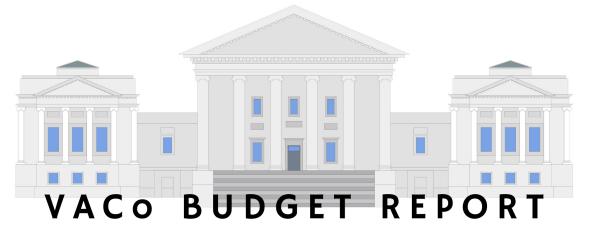
Friday, June 3, 2022



General Assembly Approves Budget Compromise; Bills Await Governor's Action



By VACo Legislative Team

The state budget process advanced toward completion on June 1 as the General Assembly approved compromise conference reports on both the FY 2022 "caboose" budget and the 2022-2024 biennium budget. General Assembly leadership indicated that the bills will be signed and submitted to the Governor within the next several days; the Governor will then have seven days to suggest amendments or veto specific items. The legislature will return later in the month if needed to consider any gubernatorial actions on the budget.

The large infusion of revenues into state coffers allowed the legislature to make significant deposits to the state's reserves and the Virginia Retirement System, as well as providing across-the-board and targeted compensation increases. Budget negotiators also fashioned a compromise that provides approximately \$4 billion in tax relief, including a significant increase in the standard income tax deduction, one-time income tax rebates, a phased-in income tax subtraction for a portion of military benefits, partial refundability of a state earned income tax credit, and elimination of the accelerated sales tax requirement for businesses. Of particular importance to local governments, the budget conference report eliminates the state portion of the sales and use tax on food for home consumption and essential personal hygiene products, effective January 1, 2023, and replaces the revenue distribution that would have otherwise been made to localities based on school-age population. The 1 percent local option portion remains in place.

The budget agreement makes significant investments in county priorities such as school capital needs, K-12 staffing, and behavioral health. An overview of key items of interest to local governments follows below:

<u>Click here to read</u> <u>VACo's Budget Report</u>

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 gharter@vaco.org. Submissions must be received by July 1, 2022.

Last year, <u>we processed 102 entries</u> 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 gharter@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



VACo Kicks Off 2022 Regional Meetings with Visit to Henrico County for Regions 2 and 3

VACo returned to in-person regional meetings for the first time since 2019 with a well-attended meeting of Regions 2 and 3 on May 23. Henrico County Supervisor Patricia S. O'Bannon welcomed attendees on behalf of Henrico County and shared some information about the host venue, Libbie Mill Library, which features solar panels that reduce the facility's energy costs.

VACo was pleased to be joined by Senator Ghazala Hashmi, who updated attendees on the General Assembly's planned return to Richmond June 1 to vote on a state budget compromise. She discussed several of her priorities for the months ahead, including making community college more accessible as a way to tackle workforce needs, as well as continuing efforts to provide better state support for the K-12 Standards of Quality and behavioral health needs within schools. Delegate Rodney Willett's Legislative Assistant, Colleen Grady, attended the meeting on his behalf.

Mike Rolband, Director of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), presented his priorities for the agency (view his presentation here). He discussed four main initiatives at DEQ:

• <u>"One DEQ"</u>: This effort is intended to balance workloads among the six regional offices and central office and support and develop staff in order to improve staff retention.

- **<u>Permitting Enhancement and Evaluation Platform</u>**: This project will create a system that allows tracking of permits requested from the agency so that applicants and the public can view the progress of the permit.
- Clarification of stormwater program regulatory requirements: DEQ will be creating a stakeholder group to create a consolidated manual that will clarify current, conflicting provisions in various manuals, guidance documents, and technical bulletins, and that can be updated over time.
- **Commodity trading program for mitigation:** DEQ will be developing a trading platform for water-related commodities to provide transparency for permittees with regard to prices, as well as supply and demand.

County representatives then spoke about top issues in their localities. Several issues emerged as common areas of concern, including education funding, strains on the mental health system and the need for a holistic approach to improvements, economic development (including broadband and water and sewer infrastructure), and transportation funding. VACo staff captured the full range of issues raised, which will help to inform the development of VACo's legislative platform later this year.

Jason El Koubi, President and CEO of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), presented on the state of the Virginia economy and top priorities for VEDP (view his presentation here). Major responsibilities of VEDP include supporting the expansion of existing companies; assisting Virginia companies with growing their export businesses; and understanding and improving the linkage between education and workforce outcomes. He discussed Virginia's economic performance; the state has yet to recoup 171,000 jobs to return to pre-pandemic levels (jobs are projected to be recovered by the end of calendar year 2022), and he is concerned that the state ranks 47^{th} in jobs recovered post-pandemic. Virginia's drop in the labor force participation rate during the pandemic is concerning as well, and is not fully understood. Virginia has a number of strengths, including a strong talent pool, logistics infrastructure, strong workforce incentives, and a competitive and stable business climate. In building on these strengths, VEDP focuses economic development efforts on a set of target industries, including the automotive sector, life sciences, data centers, food and beverage processing, and offshore wind, among others. Mr. El Koubi's presentation is available at this link.

VACo is grateful to the members, speakers, General Assembly representatives, and business partners who participated in the meeting, and extends its appreciation to Henrico County for hosting the event.

VACo Contact: Katie Boyle



Visit Bath County and the Bath County Courthouse

Location: 65 Courthouse Hill Road / Old Mill Road

Built: 1913 – 1914 Style: Classical Revival Architect: TJ Collins & Son

Contractor: Falls City Construction Company of Louisville, Kentucky

Description: The building faces south and is a two story red colored brick structure. The building sits on the landscaped grounds of Courthouse Hill in the center of Warm Springs. The south front has a large porch with six large white columns rising to a wide pediment at the roof line. The central entrance is framed. On the center of the roof is a high square white colored cupola with green colored dome. The main section of the building has a central arched window on the second story and gabled roof. The building houses the County Circuit Court, County General District Court and County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of the 25th Judicial Circuit. An addition was added on the north side in 1980.

SOURCE: American Courthouses | Courthouses.co



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

AUGUST 18, 2022 | REGISTRATION FORM | REGISTER ONLINE DRAFT AGENDA

The 2022 VACo County Officials' Summit hits the road this summer as we travel to Roanoke County. We're excited to invite Governor Glenn Youngkin and Lieutenant Governor Winsome Earle-Sears to speak about developing relationships with local governments and to share their vision for the future. We've also invited several cabinet members to talk about the issues and legislation for the 2023 General Assembly Session.

Register today to join your peers in Roanoke County on Thursday, August 18, 2022, for the VACo County Officials' Summit. Breakfast and lunch are provided with event registration.

Two time blocks of VACo Steering Committee Meetings will follow lunch on August 18. VACo's Board of Directors Meeting will take place at 9am on Friday, August 19.

Contact Valerie Russell at <u>vrussell@vaco.org</u> to book a hotel room. We looking forward to seeing you at the County Officials' Summit on August 18!

Registration Form | Register Online | Draft Agenda



Premier Partner Spotlight

NACo High Performance Leadership Academy



NACo High Performance Leadership Academy | Introductions

Dr. Tim Rahschulte joins Dean Lynch to talk about the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy, a 12-week program designed to make existing leaders better and emerging leaders ready to address the challenges of leading change in the business of counties.

Please contact **Luke Afeman**, **MBA** | Senior Director of Enrollment at <u>lukea@</u> <u>pdaleadership.com</u> or 503.908.5381 for more information. Or visit <u>https://www.naco.org/resources/education-and-training/naco-high-performance-leadership-academy</u>.



Take Your Leadership Skills to the Next Level Through the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy

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

NACo and the Professional Development Academy created the interactive program in collaboration with the late General Colin Powell, Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, private sector executives, and local government officials—all to enable your existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potentials.

More than 5,000 participants have enrolled from counties across the country since the launch of the program, with incredible feedback and results. In fact, the positive feedback and demand for this NACo program has been truly unprecedented: to the point that NACo now has four scheduled opportunities to attend each year.



The Academy has proven relevant and non-disruptive for self-paced and collaborative learning. Participants have the opportunity to engage with peers from other counties and receive expert guidance from program facilitators throughout the 12 weeks of course materials, all with a flexible 4-5 hour per week time commitment.

The cost per enrollee begins at \$1,645. Additional discounts may apply. Contact us for more details for your state.

To enroll, visit the <u>NACo High Performance Leadership Academy</u> webpage at NACo.org/Skills.

For questions and assistance in enrolling, please contact Treina Smith-Slatt at $\underline{treinas@pdaleadership.com}$



"This is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective, and efficient way to make your leaders better."

- General Colin Powell

Top 10 Participating Counties & Associations:

Hennepin County, MN
Fairfield County, OH
Texas Association of Counties
Montgomery County, MD
Douglas County, NE
Riverside County, CA
Tulare County, CA
Maricopa County, AZ
Sutter County, CA
Hamilton County, OH

Nelson County Announces New County Administrator

Board of Supervisors Appoints Candice McGarry as County Administrator and Clerk to the Board



Lovingston, VA – On May 26, the Nelson County Board of Supervisors appointed Candice W. McGarry as the interim County Administrator beginning June 3, 2022. She will assume the role of County Administrator and Clerk to the Board effective August 1, 2022. Mrs. McGarry brings with her 22 years of local government experience.

"The County received many, well-qualified applicants from across the United States. Mrs. McGarry's experience set her apart from a diverse field of candidates," commented Board of Supervisors Chairperson, Jesse Rutherford. "The Board of Supervisors has tremendous confidence that her background, skills, and obvious dedication will help us move Nelson County forward."

During her tenure in Nelson County, Mrs. McGarry worked as Finance Technician and served as the Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk until her promotion to the Director of Finance and Human Resources in 2018. Prior to serving in Nelson County administration, Mrs. McGarry worked at the USDA/Farm Service Agency and SNL Financial. McGarry holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Virginia Tech.

Upon her appointment, McGarry stated that, "I want to thank the Nelson County Board of Supervisors for their faith in selecting me to be the next County Administrator for Nelson County. I am honored that the Board has entrusted me with this responsibility to lead County staff to carry out the Board's goals and vision. Nelson County has a rich and culturally diverse history and is a community with tremendous potential. I look forward to working with Board members, staff, School Board, and other community leaders in the coming years to broaden the local tax base, create employment opportunities, and improve the quality of life for the entire community."

She further noted, "My 20 plus years of local government experience has been spent helping to rebuild our tax base, improve the County's broadband infrastructure, and build strategic relationships with community partners and stakeholders. I am proud that Nelson County is today a stronger, more vibrant and economically resilient community, and I look forward to using my experience to make Nelson County an even better place to live, work and play."

As County Administrator, McGarry will plan, manage, and implement the operations of County government under the administration of the Board of Supervisors. She will assume the duties of the interim position June 3, 2022, and formally assume the role of County Administrator August 1, 2022.



Premier Partner Spotlight

Blue Line Solutions



Blue Line Solutions

VACo 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.

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

Watch the <u>Blue Line Solutions Video Part 1</u>

Watch the **Blue Line Solutions Video Part 2**

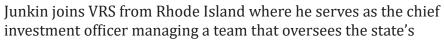
Watch the **Blue Line Solutions Video Part 3**

Watch the Blue Line Solutions Video Part 4

VRS Board Appoints Junkin as Chief Investment Officer

RICHMOND, May 25, 2022 — After concluding an extensive national search, the Virginia Retirement System Board of Trustees today announced the appointment of Andrew H. Junkin as VRS chief investment officer. VRS, the 17th largest public pension system in the U.S., has a trust fund that exceeds \$100 billion and serves more than 750,000 active and retired members.

"Andrew has demonstrated vision and skill as an investor in both the public and private sectors. He has led high-performing teams, worked collaboratively in a range of environments and developed innovative investment strategies. His collective experience serves as a critical foundation to continue the excellence and performance of the VRS investment program," said VRS Board of Trustees Chair A. Scott Andrews.





\$10.5 billion pension plan, a \$2 billion defined contribution plan and other funds. Previously, he was with Wilshire Consulting for 15 years and served as president for the last five years, leading a team of investment professionals where he worked with public and corporate pension funds, foundations, endowments and insurance companies. Prior to joining Wilshire, he served as senior consultant and president of Asset Services Co. in Oklahoma.

"I look forward to joining the dynamic, nationally recognized VRS investment team that is known for innovation and successful investment strategies. My goal is to build on this team's achievements, remaining focused on VRS' efforts to deliver investment returns within the risk parameters of the fund, and to ensure retirement security for Virginia's dedicated public servants," said Junkin.

Junkin will begin serving in the CIO role in September. Korn Ferry conducted a national search for the CIO position on behalf of the VRS Board of Trustees. As previously announced, current CIO Ron Schmitz will retire effective January 2023, but will remain with VRS through the end of the year to provide continuity and facilitate an effective transition.

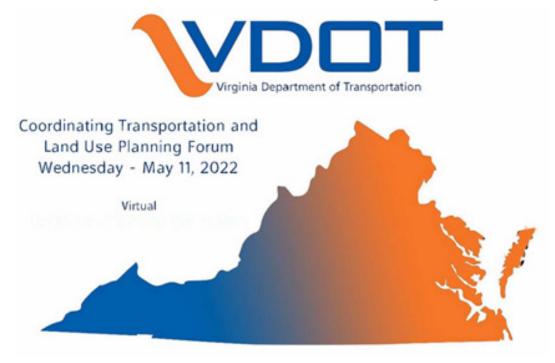
Media Contact

Jeanne Chenault | Director of Public Relations | 804-697-6665

About the Virginia Retirement System

The Virginia Retirement System, an independent state agency based in Richmond, delivers retirement and other benefits to covered Virginia public sector employees through sound financial stewardship and superior customer service. VRS ranks as the 17th largest public or private pension fund in the U.S. and the 46th largest in the world, serving more than 750,000 active and inactive members, retirees and beneficiaries. Members include public school teachers, political subdivision employees (cities, towns, special authorities and commissions), state agency employees, public college and university personnel, state police, Virginia law officers and the judiciary. Approximately 835 employers have elected to participate in VRS.

May 11th VDOT Land Use Forum – Participant Information



Forum participants -

Thank you so much for taking time from your busy schedules to participate in VDOT's May 11 "Coordinating Transportation and Land Use Planning Forum." We want to follow up after the Forum to provide you with information you may want.

- 1. <u>Video Recording of Forum</u> The Forum was video recorded & this taping has been posted on YouTube. You can access this at the Forum's website below. https://www.virginiadot.org/info/vdot_coordinating_transportation_and_land_use_planning_forum.asp
- **2.** <u>Access to Forum Presentations</u> If you are not a VDOT employee, please email Blair Toombs (<u>blair. toombs@vdot.virginia.gov</u>) or Lynne Lloyd (<u>lynne.lloyd@vdot.virginia.gov</u>) to receive any presentation you would like. If you are a VDOT employee, please go to VDOT's Office of Land Use SharePoint site & go to the "Land Use Forum Presentations" link.
- **3.** <u>Contacting Forum Presenters</u> If there are any Forum presenters you would like to contact, please email Blair or Lynne. The presenters can answer your questions or provide you with additional information.
- **4.** <u>Education Credits for Forum</u> VDOT awarded Forum participants seven credits for virtually attending the Forum. For all participants, these credits can be used at DPOR for relevant professions such as PE's. The American Planning Association has certified 6.5 CM credits for Forum participation & they have given the Forum the identification of CM **#9248336**.

If you have any additional questions regarding the Forum, please contact Blair or Lynne.

"Infrastructure School" Webinars



Over the months of February and March 2022, Biden-Harris Administration officials hosted a series of webinars we called "Infrastructure School" to show how to use the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook and provide a deeper look at important information and upcoming milestones for each of the major areas of investment in the law.

How to Use the Guidebook: https://youtu.be/b8qdnj1094A

Transportation

- Roads, Bridges, and Major Projects: https://youtu.be/00YudCZ0r1Y
- Passenger & Freight Rail: https://youtu.be/plGglKyFt1c
- **Public Transportation:** https://youtu.be/H jz f9wWYk
- Airports: https://youtu.be/jnZqWD7Sx6o
- Ports and Waterways: https://youtu.be/IC2bc6d3c1M
- Safety: https://youtu.be/2pFiHduYShU
- Electric Vehicles, Buses & Ferries: https://youtu.be/ps4GPnbKTag

Climate, Energy & the Environment

- Clean Energy and Power: https://youtu.be/03gxxJ1t6T
- Water: https://youtu.be/vso7z8hqCLA
- Resilience: https://youtu.be/jB8AFCAezy4
- Environmental Remediation: https://youtu.be/r0_ziYolgY0

High Speed Internet

• **Broadband:** https://youtu.be/t7rM1uTAl9



Schar School of Policy and Government Regional Elected Leaders Initiative

REGIONAL ELECTED LEADERS INITIATIVE

Celebrating 5 Years of Leadership in Northern Virginia



Peer-to-Peer Brown Bag Lunch Cohorts | Register today!

The Schar School of Public Policy's Regional Elected Leaders Initiative (RELI) is pleased to again offer a Peer-to-Peer Brown Bag Lunch Cohort Program.

The pressure on local elected officials is great. This is a unique opportunity for local elected leaders to talk with your peers from other jurisdictions about a range of governance issues, and some current local policy issues, such as:

- How can I be more effective as a local elected official?
- How do others manage their communication with constituents?
- What is the most effective way to engage staff?
- How can I best engage my colleagues on the council or the school board?
- What policy best practices of others might I pursue or collaborate on?
- How can I effectively address equity in public policy?

The program consists of 4, virtual, one-hour sessions facilitated by senior, former local elected officials. Participation is limited to 12 local elected officials in each group, and no more than two members of any council/board. We ask that participants commit to all four sessions in their respective peer groups.

There is no fee. Give it a try!

For more information, please contact SchaRELI@gmu.edu.

City/Town Council & County Board Cohort June 3, 10, 17 & 24, Noon - 1pm School Board Cohort July 15, 22, 29 & August 5, Noon - 1pm

Register Now!



Register Now!





11th Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference

Connections Matter

When: November 1 - 2, 2022

Where: The Hotel Roanoke &

Conference Center in Roanoke, VA

FREE Pre-Conference Events on the afternoon of October 31, 2022:

Adaptive Leadership - CSA Coordinators Strategic Planning - CPMT Members

(Registration required for all pre-conference sessions.)

Register Today

11th Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference

We are excited to welcome everyone back to an in-person event of the 11th Commonwealth of Virginia's Annual Children's Services Act Conference, where "Connections Matter." Please join us for two days of impactful training, vendor visits, and activities focused on the resiliency of Virginia's CSA community, the changes in child welfare arising from various initiatives and national trends, and the evidence-based practices that inspire positive outcomes in engaging the youth and families in our work.

Register Today!

When: November 1-2, 2022

Where: The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

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

VACO2022 REGIONAL MEETINGS

IN-PERSON MEETING

REGIONS 2&3 - MAY 23 | HENRICO
REGIONS 6&9 - JUNE 9 | AUGUSTA
REGIONS 5&7 - JULY 12 | FLUVANNA
REGIONS 12&13 - AUGUST 23 | RUSSELL
REGIONS 1&4 - TBA | DINWIDDIE
REGIONS 10&11 - TBA | FRANKLIN

VIRTUAL MEETING

REGIONS 6&7&8 - TBA

Get ready for NACo Annual Business Meeting, election



Calvin Newsom, Marion County, Miss. supervisor, takes the microphone at a NACo annual business meeting. Photo by Hugh Clarke

NACo's 2022 annual business meeting and election will be held in-person in Adams County, CO, on Sunday, July 24. During the meeting, credentialed NACo members elect NACo officers, set our national policy agenda and conduct other association business.

Voting credentials verify a member county, parish or borough's eligibility to vote and the number of votes they can cast at the meeting. To be eligible to vote, NACo members should:

- Register for the 2022 Annual Conference
- Pay 2022 NACo membership dues in full, and
- Designate one voting delegate by Monday, July 18, 2022 at 5 p.m. EDT.

To facilitate the voting process, members should authorize only one primary voting delegate per county and must provide the cell phone number of the voting delegate.

The county's chief elected official, clerk to the county board and conference registrants can visit NACo.org/VotingCredentials to appoint their primary delegate or proxy online. A proxy voter can be another county attendee from the same state or your state association of counties.

Paper voting credential forms will not be mailed to member counties but can be accessed electronically by visiting NACo.org/VotingCredentials.

A member's vote total is determined by the amount of dues paid and dues are based on the population of the 2010 census.

Click here for more information.

Meet the Candidates: Phyllis Randall

Loudoun County, Va. Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall is running to be NACo's second vice president

Why are you interested in serving as a NACo officer?

As the COVID-19 pandemic becomes an ongoing endemic, my background makes me uniquely qualified to address the issues we will confront as a nation for many years in the wake of this historic challenge. A mental health/substance dependence crisis, or what I am referring to as the second pandemic, is likely to sweep our nation with immeasurable, long-term health impacts in the coming years. As a mental health/substance abuse therapist for over two decades, I have seen firsthand the lasting harm untreated mental health issues can have on individuals and families. National policy will be significantly shaped by this "invisible" health crisis over the next three to five years, and NACo will need to engage on this issue during that timeframe.

Secondly, as the Chair At-Large of a County with Urban, Suburban and Rural Policy Areas, I have in-depth, practical working knowledge of the diverse needs and challenges facing almost every county in the nation. For example, supply



chain disruptions have clarified for us the importance of supporting the farming and agriculture economies in our rural counties. At the same time, as local elected governing bodies have worked to sustain service delivery, enduring, equitable distribution of services to communities of color and poor communities has become a major issue for our Urban/Suburban counties.

What do you consider to have been your most important contribution to the National Association of Counties to date? What do you consider to have been your most important contribution to your state association of counties?

In just seven years as an elected official, I have become very involved in the National Association of Counties. To date, I would count my most important involvement as being a founding member of the NACo Economic Mobility Leadership Network (EMLN). In fact, the new Sister City relationship between Loudoun County, Virginia and Holmes County, Mississippi, and supported by NACo, has been key and very important as NACo has contended with economic and health equity throughout the nation.

In 2019, NACo asked me to testify before a Congressional Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives regarding how counties should conduct their 2020 census and how the Federal Government could support the efforts of the nation's Urban, Suburban, Rural and Frontier counties in completing the most accurate census counts possible.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Finally, I have tried to incorporate my passion regarding the importance of treating mental health as we do every other health condition: de-stigmatizing the diseases of mental health and substance abuse. I have participated as an expert panelist or facilitator at numerous VACo and NACo conferences on the subject. In addition, in my state (commonwealth) organizations, I have been actively involved in writing legislation, serving and having leadership roles on various committee assignments.

- First Term in Office January 2016 December 2019
- 2016-2019 National Association of Counties Health and Human Services, member
- Loudoun County joins NACo Heath County initiative
- Loudoun County joins NACo Stepping Up initiative
- Loudoun County joins NACo Women in Government
- Loudoun County joins NACo Women in Leadership
- 2018 Founding member NACo Economic Mobility Leadership Network
- 2016 Virginia Association of Counties Board of Directors
- 2016 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, member
- 2017 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, member
- 2019 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, Vice Chair
- Second Term in Office January 2020 Present
- 2020 Virginia Association of Counties Board of Directors
- 2020 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, Chair
- 2021 National Association of Counties Healthy Counties Committee, Chair
- 2021 Behavioral Health Subcommittee of the National Association of Counties Health Steering Committee, Chair
- 2021 National Association of Counties Health Steering Committee, member
- NACo appointee to the Bipartisan Policy Center Public Heath Forward Task Force

What do you consider to be the two or three most important challenges facing NACo in the near future on which the Officers/Executive Committee/Board of Directors should focus? Why?

- **A.** Counties are being inundated with unfunded mandates. Although I agree with some of these increased funding for education, for example federal and state governments need to ensure they can fully fund their own priorities without requiring counties to "match" federal/state program mandates. Many counties, especially smaller or rural counties with limited budgets, have neither the population nor the inclination to incur the added expenses of such programs and often simply cannot afford these federal/state budget mandates.
- **B.** Across the nation, many state legislatures are introducing legislation to usurp power from local governing bodies. These initiatives include critical curtailments in areas such as taxing authority, zoning/land use issues, election management and the voting process. Many state legislatures are now aggressively attempting to legislate items that have historically been the purview of local governments. I believe local elected bodies, comprising elected officials closest to those they represent, should retain control of local issues without interference from state bodies.
- **C.** Over the past two years, local elected officials have been required to not only perform our many "regular duties," but also to manage a 100-year pandemic and all its related community

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

trauma. I never imagined a time when I would know the running count of my constituents who were hospitalized or died as a result of COVID-19. This, of course, touches on another aspect of our growing mental health crisis. Just as we have cared for our constituents, we must increasingly recognize the mental health toll these past two years have exacted on our local elected officials. Local elected officials cannot care for our constituents if we do not have the appropriate coping mechanisms, tools and resources to respond to our own mental health needs.

What measures would you recommend to increase and retain NACo membership and to encourage broad participation in NACo by elected officials and employees of NACo member counties? What specific role would you be willing to assume to help build and sustain membership in NACo?

Although Loudoun County has always been a member of NACo, our elected officials have largely not attended NACo conferences or been significantly involved in NACo activities. Shortly after taking office, I realized how beneficial NACo and the Virginia Association of Counties are in accomplishing many of our collective goals. NACo not only offers networking opportunities and support from other local elected officials, it provides invaluable materials, information and resources to foster better governance. I believe if county staff and elected officials more fully understood the obvious benefits of NACo and their state associations, they would be much more likely not only to become financial members, but also actively engaged participants in all NACo programs. Some ideas to increase membership are:

- a. Offer a one-time membership discount to smaller counties that are not members.
- **b.** Hold a NACo cohort meeting in an underrepresented area.
- **c.** Offer to send a NACo representative or expert to an inactive county for consultations with the local elected bodies.
- **d.** Have NACo officers and board members dedicate themselves to reach out and visit inactive/non-member counties.



2022 VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S

VOLUNTEERISM

& COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

FOR MORE
INFORMATION VISIT
VIRGINIASERVICE.VIRGINIA.GOV





Do you know an incredible kid who is already making the world a better place? How about a local business always involved in the community? The Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards annually recognize the significant contributions of these amazing volunteers. Honorees will be celebrated at a special event in September 2022.

Award Categories: Senior, Adult, Young Adult, Youth, Independent Group, Community Organization, Faith-Based Organization, Educational Organization, Corporation, and Small Businesss.



We wanted to send along a reminder to please take the 2022 Chesapeake Bay Program partnership survey. As you probably know, the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) is collecting data on the demographics of those who are involved in the program using a survey approach. It's vitally important that we get as many responses as we can.

At this time, we've heard from 15% of the potential respondents, but our goal is to hear from everyone!

The survey can be found here: Take the Survey

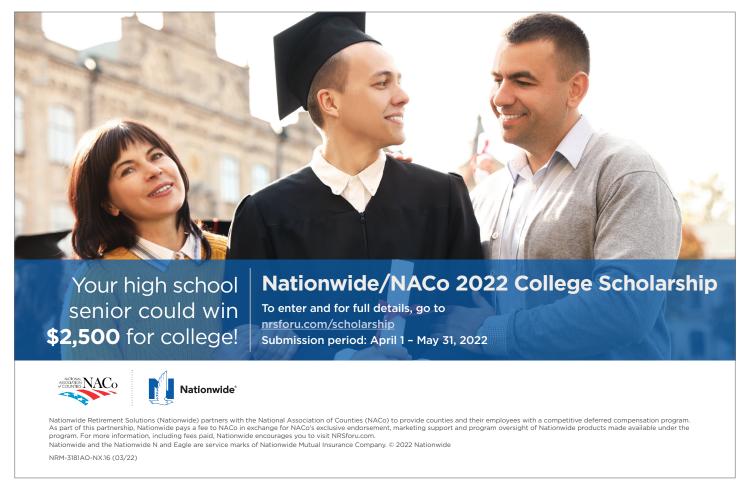
Or copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser: https://erg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV 6fHA6pA0ZQdklka?Q DL=UuI2pIcFb8fdSgy 6fHA6pA0ZQdklka CGC TBgOj4L1BRIqppC&Q CHL=email

The survey should take no more 3-5 minutes to complete and your response will be extremely helpful in providing important information to shape our work in the next two years.

If you have questions on the content of the survey, please contact Allison Ng (ng.allison@epa.gov).

If you have technical questions on the survey, please contact Lou Nadeau (Lou.Nadeau@erg.com).

Please take the Survey



Nationwide and NACo College Scholarship

The application period for the Nationwide and NACo College Scholarship is open through May 31. Are you the parent, grandparent or legal guardian of a high school senior? If you actively contribute to a 457(b) plan offered through the NACo Deferred Compensation Program, your student is eligible to apply for one of four \$2,500 college scholarships. Scholarships will be awarded in the fall of 2020.

In its 16th year of existence, the NACo/Nationwide scholarship essay contest is an educational opportunity for high school students transitioning into a new stage of their lives. Engaging young people in civic life and responsibilities is a great way to show high school students the valuable roles that counties play in the lives of their residents. The 2020 scholarship program's goal is to help ensure that young people get involved and stay involved in local government -- and understand the importance of being good stewards of their future finances.

To help students consider the importance of saving early and consistently, students are asked to write an essay that answers the following questions: Most high school students dream of the day when they will be on their own and no longer depend on their parents, but that kind of freedom requires financial independence. What does financial freedom mean to you? What is your plan to achieve financial freedom for yourself and how are you going to ensure that your financial freedom will continue through your retirement years?

Application process

Parents, grandparents or legal guardians should talk to their eligible high school seniors about applying right away. Applications can be completed online at nrsforu.com/scholarship beginning April 1. Click here for more information.

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.



#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

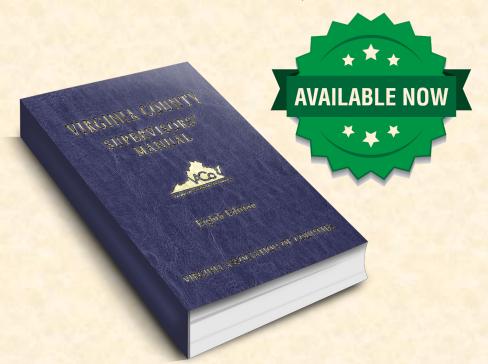
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<u>Virginia Promise in Action - Video Campaign</u> <u>Compilation - YouTube</u>

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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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.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES | Spotsylvania County | Posted June 1



CAPITAL PROJECTS MANAGER | Town of Chapel Hill, NC | Posted May 27



TRANSPORTATION **ENGINEERING MAMAGER | Town of** Chapel Hill, NC | Posted June 1



BUILDING INSPECTOR | Patrick County | Posted May 26



HUMAN RESOURCES

MANAGER | Town of Farmville | Posted June 1



CDL-A DRIVER Chesterfield County | Posted June 1



INSPECTOR II (PLUMBING/MECHANICAL) **Gloucester County** | Posted May 26



FIRE CHIEF | Town of

Farmville | Posted June 1



ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN | Chesterfield County | Posted June 1



CUSTODIAN (PART TIME) | Westmoreland County



SENIOR PROCUREMENT **SPECIALIST-CONTRUCTION**

Albemarle County | Posted June 1



HVAC MECHANIC

Chesterfield County | Posted June 1



| Posted May 26

SOL SERVER DATABASE **ADMINISTRATOR | Chesterfield**

County | Posted May 26



PROJECT MANAGER/

INSPECTOR | Albemarle County | Posted June 1



BUILDING OFFICIAL

City of Harrisonburg | Posted May 27



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Westmoreland County Public Schools | Posted May 25



TRAVEL SPECIALIST |

Albemarle County | Posted June 1



OF PARKS & RECREATION | City of Harrisonburg | Posted May 27

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC II | Albemarle County | Posted May 25



DIRECTOR HUMAN

RESOURCES | New Kent County | Posted June 1



VAN/CAR DRIVER | City

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

of Harrisonburg | Posted May 27



CHIEF OF ENTERPRISE APPLICATION SERVICES | Albemarle County | Posted May 25



SENIOR PLANNER/

PLANNER | Albemarle County | Posted May 25





SENIOR REAL ESTATE **APPRAISER** | Prince George County | Posted May 24



MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR | Prince George County | Posted May 24



UTILITY WORKER

Prince George County | Posted May 24



REAL ESTATE TECHINCIAN | Prince George County | Posted May 24



PERMIT TECHICIAN I

Prince George County | Posted May 24





MANAGER I. ANIMAL **CONTROL** | Prince George County | Posted May 24



FIRE MEDIC - PTT | **Prince George County** | Posted May 24



EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN | Chesterfield County | Posted May 24



PARK MAINTENANCE **TECHNICIAN** | Gloucester County | Posted May 23



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR | Town of **Tappahannock** | Posted May 23



MAINTENANCE WORKER | Montgomery County | Posted May 23



PRINCIPAL ENGINEER Chesterfield County | Posted May 23



OFFICE TECHNICIAN -**PART TIME** | Montgomery County I Posted May 23



HOUSEKEEPER -FULLTIME | Montgomery County | Posted May 23



SHELTER OPERATIONS MANAGER | Culpeper County | Posted May 23



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES | Spotsylvania County | Posted May 23



RADIO **COMMUNICATIONS/ELETRONICS SPECIALIST** | Chesterfield County | Posted May 23



DEPUTY CLERK II Culpeper County | Posted May 20



ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II - TAX SUPPORT | **Culpeper County** | Posted May 20



ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III - TAX SUPPORT Culpeper County | Posted May 20



ASSISTANT PLANNING DIRECTOR/CODE **COMPLIANCE OFFICER | Richmond County** | Posted May 20

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.



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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.



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

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

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