

VACo Releases Its 2024 Preliminary Legislative Program



VACo has released its [2024 Preliminary Legislative Program](#), which was drafted through VACo's steering committee process. The document includes a host of important and timely proposed policy statements including language pertaining to K-12 education funding, local taxing authority, stormwater regulations, land use planning, transportation, broadband, health and human resources and other local budget and legislative issues.

Click on the link to read the [2024 Preliminary Legislative Program](#).

The 2024 Legislative Program will be adopted on November 14 during the Annual Business Meeting at the [VACo Annual Conference](#).

VACo's eight steering committees will finalize and adopt their policy sections on November 12. The Resolutions Committee will ratify the Legislative Program on November 13. VACo's membership will vote to adopt the Final Legislative Program on November 14.

VACo members are encouraged to continue to add their input to this document by working through their county's legislative process and the VACo steering committee process to put forward suggested changes to VACo's 2024 Legislative Program.

For questions regarding VACo's legislative process, contact Dean Lynch at dlynch@vaco.org or 804.343.2511.

VACo Contact: [Dean Lynch, CAE](#)

VACo 89th Annual Conference



BREAKOUT SESSION

VIRGINIA'S ENERGY LANDSCAPE

Monday, November 13 | 1130am - 1245pm

Join us at The Omni Homestead in Bath County, VA

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS HONOR PHYLLIS A. ERRICO WITH 2023 FINNEGAN WHITING AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE



Phyllis A. Errico (center) receiving resolution honoring her as the recipient of the Edward J. Finnegan Elizabeth D. Whiting Award for Distinguished Service, as presented by **Sharon E. Pandak** (left), Partner at Pandak & Taves, PLLC., and **Michelle R. Robl** (right), Prince William County Attorney.

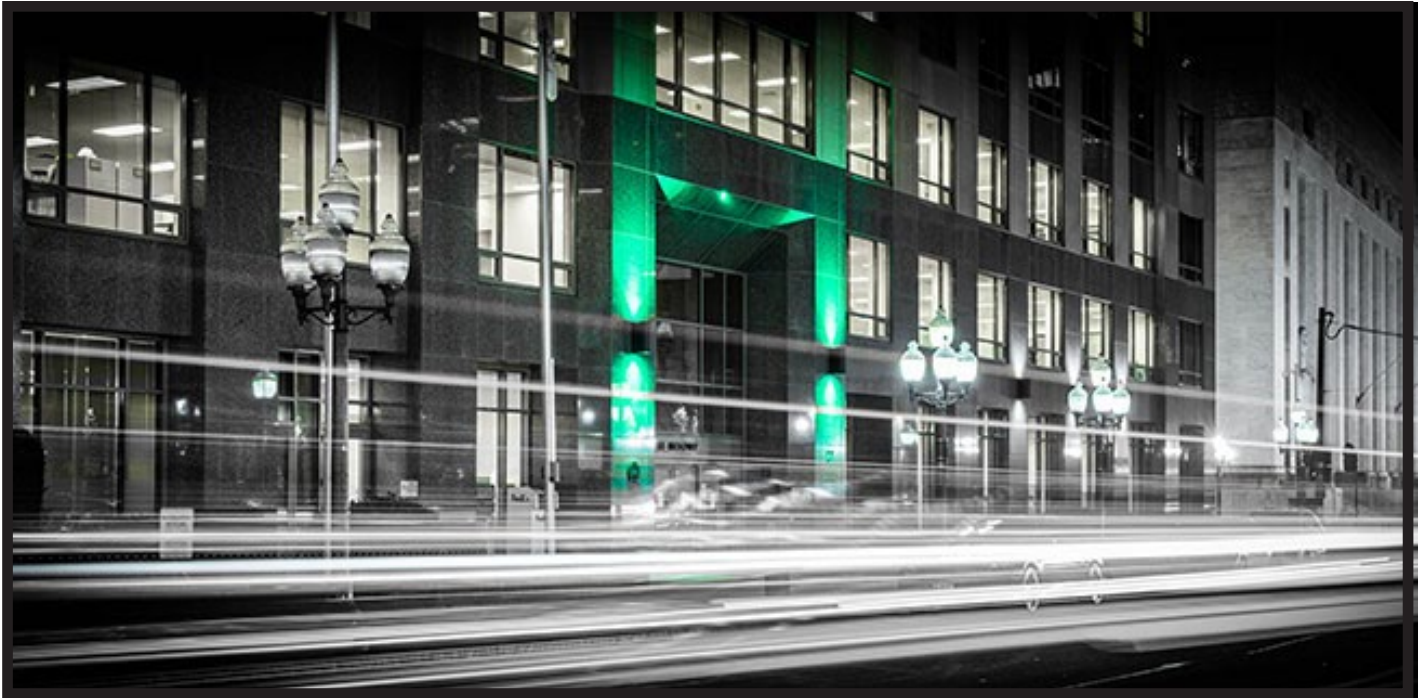
The Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. (LGA) awarded its highest honor, the Edward J. Finnegan Elizabeth D. Whiting Award for Distinguished Service, to Phyllis A. Errico, General Counsel, Virginia Association of Counties, at its recently concluded fall conference in Reston, Virginia.

The Finnegan Whiting Award recognizes Phyllis Errico for her significant and sustained contributions to Virginia local government law and LGA. The Award noted that prior to becoming General Counsel for the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo), Phyllis served as: VACo's Director of Legal Services, Henrico Senior Assistant County Attorney, Hanover Assistant County Attorney, and Assistant Attorney General for Virginia. She served as President of the National Association of Civil County Attorneys, Board Member and Chair of the Virginia State Bar Local Government Section, and as Virginia Council of School Attorneys' Board Member and President. Her dedication to LGA includes serving on several committees and as a perennial conference speaker on legislative updates. She has received the prestigious Erwin Special Projects Award twice – for VACo's 8th Edition of the Virginia County Supervisors Manual and as a member of the COVID-19 Committee.

LGA promotes common interests and an exchange of information among its members on legal issues that are particularly relevant to Virginia's counties, cities, and towns. The LGA's member services include conferences, a legal handbook, a monthly newsletter, and other services intended to inform and enhance the practice of local government.

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SUPPORT VETERANS WITH OPERATION GREEN LIGHT



This Veterans Day, NACo and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers invite counties to participate in Operation Green Light. By illuminating buildings with green lights from November 6–12, counties can show appreciation and support for veterans and their families.

- **Participation tools:** Access NACo's [Operation Green Light Toolkit](#) to learn how your county can get involved.
- Please be sure to [share](#) your county's activities with us.
- **WATCH:** NACo President Mary Jo McGuire [encourages](#) counties to participate.
- **Highlights from 2022** [Check out](#) some of the 300+ county participants from last year.

PHOTO CREDIT: [Wikipedia](#)

Visit Henrico County and the Henrico County Historic Courthouse

Location: 2125 East Main Street / 22nd Street

Built: 1896 – 1897

Style: Romanesque

Architect: Carl Ruehrmund

Contractor: William Trexler and Richard E Elmore

Description: The building faces east and is a three story red colored brick and stone structure. The southeast corner has a large square tower rising to a steep green colored roof with dormers. On the northeast corner is a smaller square tower. The front has a large arch with recessed entrance. The base of the building is course stone. There is red colored brick addition along the west side. The building is unoccupied.

Note: The previous courthouse was destroyed by fire in 1894. The City of Richmond expanded and the 1896 courthouse was declared as a part of Henrico County within Richmond until the county seat moved to Laurel. The 1896 courthouse was then sold.

SOURCE: courthouses.co



**Check out our 89th Annual Conference logo!
See you on November 12-14 in beautiful Bath County!**

**VACo 89th Annual Conference
November 12 – 14, 2023
The Omni Homestead | Bath County
[VACo Annual Conference Website](https://www.vaco.org/conference)**



Get to know one of VACo's Premier Partners – Aetna

VACo Premier Partner Aetna believes healthier happens together. Aetna is a leading health care company that takes a holistic approach in partnering with public sector employees and their families to achieve their best health.

Dean Lynch, VACo Executive Director, and Marcus Duckworth, VP, Client Management of Aetna, explore key health benefits in areas important to the public sector.

Part 1 | [Retiree Savings Through Medicare Advantage](#)

Part 2 | [Mental Health Support](#)

Part 3 | [Custom Benefits Solutions for Government Employers](#)

Part 4 | [Community Health](#)

TRUEBLUE PHOTO SPEED ENFORCEMENT

5 THINGS

YOU SHOULD KNOW



04:14



True Blue Photo Speed Enforcement – 5 Things You Should Know

Answers to Frequent Questions About Blue Line Solutions' Photo Speed Enforcement Program

<https://vimeo.com/860454886>

For more information, contact Greg Hogston | Sales Manager – Virginia
ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org | 276-759-8064

George Govan is Loudoun County's New Director of Finance & Procurement



George Govan has been selected as the new director of the Loudoun County Department of Finance and Procurement, County Administrator Tim Hemstreet announced today. Govan was selected after a nationwide recruitment. His appointment is effective October 26, 2023.

Govan has more than three decades of professional experience in finance and procurement, most recently with the US AbilityOne Commission, where he served as chief financial officer. He has served in multiple executive and senior leadership roles at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Transportation Security Administration and the Railroad Retirement Board. Govan also served as a financial management officer in progressively responsible positions during his career in the United States Air Force, from which he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2011.

"Our nationwide search attracted a strong and competitive group of applicants for this critical position in Loudoun and George stood out as having a wide range of experience in the areas of responsibility that fall under the Department of Finance and Procurement," said Hemstreet. "We are pleased to find such a highly experienced professional to serve the residents of Loudoun County."

The Loudoun County Department of Finance and Procurement works to ensure that the county's financial management and accounting systems are maintained appropriately and that county agencies and the public receive information in a timely and effective manner. The office manages internal auditing and compliance, financial accounting, financial and budgetary reporting, internal control, payroll and accounts payable. The department also is responsible for the acquisition of all goods and services, including professional services and construction, for Loudoun County government operations.

Govan holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, a master's degree from Troy University and a doctorate of education from The George Washington University. Govan and his family are residents of Loudoun County.

More information about the Department of Finance and Procurement is online at loudoun.gov/finance.

VACo concludes Regional Meeting Season with robust legislative discussions in Chesterfield County



VACo held its last regional meetings for 2023 on September 19, at the recently opened Beulah Recreation Center in Chesterfield County. VACo staff had the honor of traveling to Chesterfield County, who graciously hosted the event, to meet with local elected officials and staff from Region 3 and Region 5. Region 3 encompasses the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico while Region 5 contains Albemarle, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Nelson and Powhatan. These regional meetings allow us to hear directly from county staff and elected officials on the important issues facing localities across Virginia. They also help VACo staff craft the legislative program for the upcoming 2024 legislative session.

The meeting began with representatives from each county outlining top issues or legislative priorities in their localities. Several issues emerged as common areas of concern including local land use authority, unfunded mandates, law enforcement and public safety as well as education and mental health funding. As it pertains to local land use and unfunded mandates, VACo has been a long-time supporter of local land use authority for localities as well as holding long time opposition to unfunded mandates. Counties

in these regions expressed support for law enforcement as well as the proposal to extend Line of Duty Act (LODA) benefits to state certified law enforcement officers employed by the handful of private police departments operating in Virginia if there is no additional funding mandate to local governments. Members also discussed challenges with landlords who fail to maintain rental properties; several counties are investigating options for addressing this situation. Support for mental health services as well as support for education related funding rounded out the discussion among counties at the meeting. VACo was delighted to have various legislators from the General Assembly participate alongside their county counterparts at this meeting. Senator Ghazala Hashmi began the discussion with the legislators' portion of the meeting by discussing issues of importance to her. Senator Hashmi discussed at length the mental health issues facing Virginia and touched on the interstate counseling compact, an effort she hopes to expand upon by carrying the social work licensure compact during the 2024 Session of the General Assembly. Delegate Lee Ware spoke about his experience as an educator and the importance of education and related policy to him and his efforts. He affirmed his position that local land use decisions be kept at the local level. Delegate Rodney Willett would touch on a multitude of topics, including support for more education funding, supporting mental health funding and access, working towards housing affordability, and climate resilience efforts throughout the Commonwealth. We were all delighted to have federal representation at this meeting through the attendance of Taylor Thornhill, Regional Director with Senator Tim Kaine's office. Ms. Thornhill made sure to highlight several initiatives and programs the Senator's Office is working on. First, Senator Kaine is pushing a workforce bill titled the [JOBS Act](#) and a bill to [stop government shutdowns](#). Second, the Senator's Office is taking requests for congressionally directed spending and is asking for county level input. Lastly, county leaders and grant applicants are welcome and encouraged to always reach out for letters of support from Senator Kaine's office regarding federal grants.

All of those in attendance then got to listen to a bevy of great speakers. Kevin Carroll, Chair of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors and the recent Chair of the Central Virginia Transportation Authority, gave an update of major transportation projects occurring or being discussed that are of importance to Region 3 and 5 counties. Jim Regimbal, VACo Fiscal Policy Advisor, gave an overview of the 2023 JLARC SOQ study conclusions and what this means for education funding in Virginia. Adam Rosatelli, Director of Finance for the Opioid Abatement Authority, discussed the great work the Authority is doing and urged county leaders to apply for the current round of funding that began October 1st. Please click [this link](#) for more details and resources regarding the applications and any accompanying resources.

The meeting served as a great chance to connect with VACo member counties and get a grasp of the issues at heart in Regions 3 and 5. VACo staff wants to first thank Chesterfield County and the Beulah Recreation Center staff for hosting us for a great meeting. We would like to give a special thanks to the county leaders and staff, Senator Hashmi, Delegate Ware, Delegate Willett, Taylor Thornhill, sponsors and others who attended and participated in the discussion. This meeting concludes the VACo Regional Meeting calendar for the year and all of us at VACo want to say thank you to all those who hosted, spoke at and participated in these meetings over the last six months. We are looking forward to visiting counties and discussing the issues important to county leaders 2024.

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)

State Revenues on Track as Money Committees Discuss Tax Policy, Medicaid Redetermination, Foster Care, and More



The “money committees” received positive news about state revenues this week in their first meetings in the newly-renovated General Assembly building, which opened to the public on October 11. In his [briefing on state revenues](#), Secretary of Finance Stephen E. Cummings reported that state General Fund revenues are 6.6 percent, or approximately \$412.1 million, ahead of the forecast adopted along with the September 2023 budget revisions. However, the Secretary continued to advise caution, pointing to the continued uncertainty about future interest rate hikes, geopolitical instability, and a possible federal government shutdown. The Secretary’s [revenue report](#) characterizes the September revenue forecast as “intentionally conservative,” noting, “we remain cautious in our outlook over the near term.”

The state’s main revenue sources – individual income tax withholding and sales and use tax – are performing in line with expectations. On a fiscal year-to-date basis, withholding collections are up 0.4 percent, \$53.6 million ahead of the forecasted decline of 0.7 percent. Sales and use tax collections are 2 percent higher on a fiscal year-to-date basis, outpacing the forecast of a 6.7 percent decline, but year-over-year growth is expected to slow due to the elimination of the state portion of the sales and use tax on groceries.

[More on Next Page](#)

Higher-than-expected nonwithholding receipts represented the lion's share of the \$412.1 million in revenue collected above the forecast. The new Pass-Through Entity Tax, which allows certain business owners to elect to pay state income tax at the entity level (rather than the entity's income being passed through to the business owner and the owner paying individual income taxes on that income) and then to receive a corresponding refundable income tax credit, continues to create what Secretary Cummings described as "noise" in the nonwithholding revenue numbers due to the timing of when taxpayers submit payments relative to when they file for credits. The Virginia Department of Taxation's Assistant Commissioner of Tax Policy Kristin Collins, Lead Tax Policy Analyst James Savage, and Tax Policy Analyst James Ford [explained](#) to the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee on October 17 that this new tax mechanism, which is intended to allow these businesses to circumvent the \$10,000 cap on deductions of state and local taxes from federal income taxes by shifting their income tax liability to the business (which is not subject to the \$10,000 cap), has made revenue forecasting for nonwithholding collections complex. State forecasters have expected taxpayers who are eligible to elect the Pass-Through Entity Tax option to account for this option in their individual income tax filings (by accounting for the Pass-Through Entity Tax credit in their individual income tax liability), but taxpayers have behaved more cautiously than expected. These "cautious filers" have overpaid their individual income taxes and will be owed refunds; Department staff note that these overpayments will likely not be corrected until late in the calendar year, making it difficult to determine whether the strong nonwithholding collections thus far in FY 2024 are attributable to underlying economic factors or to overpayments by "cautious filers."

The House Appropriations Committee also received [an update on the process of Medicaid eligibility redetermination](#), which began in March 2023 and requires all 2.1 million Medicaid members to be re-evaluated as a result of the end of the continuous coverage requirement that was in place during the COVID-19 public health emergency. As of this month, half of the redeterminations have been completed. The Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee received briefings on [Virginia's foster care system](#), including concerted efforts by the Virginia Department of Social Services to work with local departments of social services to promote kinship care; [early childhood care and education](#); and the [Virginia Retirement System](#).

The money committees will hold their respective pre-General Assembly session retreats in November in advance of the Governor's presentation of his proposed budget in December. The Administration's budget development process is well underway, with state agency requests due at the end of September; the Joint Advisory Board of Economists met on October 11, and the Governor's Advisory Council on Revenue estimates will meet on November 20.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

JLARC Publishes Report on Enhanced Retirement Benefits for Public Safety Occupations



On October 16, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission ([JLARC](#)) met to present several reports, one of which was an overview of eligibility of public safety occupations for enhanced retirement benefits. The [report](#) examined the responsibilities of various public safety occupations as well as the estimated costs to state and local governments of providing enhanced retirement benefits to certain occupations currently not included in Code. Though the report did not recommend to legislators which occupations should be added, it did recommend that two guidelines should be used to determine whether enhanced benefits are appropriate: 1) employees should have a high level of responsibility for ensuring the safety of others, 2) employees should have physically and psychologically demanding jobs that are more difficult to perform as they age. VACo has long expressed an interest in this subject as any new mandate by the General Assembly to require that certain occupations receive enhanced retirement benefits would increase costs to local governments for certain positions through higher insurance premiums, whereas making these positions eligible for a local option would preserve local control in the matter and address VACo's concerns.

Virginia's enhanced retirement benefits are more generous than retirement benefits for general state and local employees in three ways. First, employees with enhanced benefits can retire earlier and with less public service than non-public safety employees. Second, compared with retirement benefits for general state or local employees, enhanced retirement benefits generally have a higher multiplier, which results in a higher monthly pension benefit during retirement. Third, some state and local public safety employees eligible for enhanced retirement benefits receive a hazardous duty supplement, which is added to their monthly retirement benefit. Currently, locally employed or supplemented occupations eligible for these benefits include firefighters and EMTs, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, police officers, and local and regional jail staff.

The JLARC report follows a multiyear process after the Senate Finance and Appropriations and House Appropriations committee chairs sent a letter in 2022 requesting that JLARC staff review the eligibility of several state and local public safety occupations for enhanced retirement benefits. The request was in response to [legislation](#) submitted in recent years to make these occupations eligible for enhanced benefits. During the 2023 General Assembly session, the Senate Finance and Appropriations and House Appropriations committees requested that additional public safety occupations be included in the JLARC review in response to proposed [legislation](#). These occupations included three locally funded occupations: 911 dispatchers, juvenile detention specialists, and animal control officers.

Of the three local government funded occupations, the most numerous in terms of estimated positions and potential impact to local finances is 911 dispatchers. There are estimated to be 1,000 local 911 dispatch positions in the Commonwealth. 911 dispatchers answer emergency calls and dispatch first responders. JLARC assessed that 911 dispatchers have a high level of public safety responsibility and dispatchers face a high level of psychological demands, but minimal physical demands. The estimated cost of providing enhanced benefits for 911 dispatchers in the first-year ranges from 0.5% for one large locality to 25% for one small locality. An estimated increase in local retirement contribution rate ranges from 0.05% to 2.55%. All local cost estimates for the three local occupations were based on eight illustrative localities for which cost estimates were developed.

There are an estimated 825 local juvenile detention specialist positions in the Commonwealth. Local juvenile detention specialists supervise residents in local juvenile detention facilities. JLARC assessed that juvenile detention specialists have a low level of public safety responsibility and face a moderate level of physical and psychological demands. The estimated increased cost of providing enhanced benefits for local juvenile detention specialists in the first year is approximately 1%. The amount of estimated first-year increase could be as high as \$440,000 for one large locality. The estimated increase in local retirement contribution rate in the first year is approximately 0.14%.

There are an estimated 490 local animal control officer positions in the Commonwealth. Local animal control officers enforce state and local laws related to animals. JLARC assessed that animal control officers have a moderate level of public safety responsibility and face a high level of physical and psychological demands. JLARC estimated increases in local retirement costs in the first year ranging from 0.1% to 1.1%. Estimated first-year cost increase could be as high as \$181,000 for one large locality. Overall, estimated increases in local retirement contribution rate could range from 0.02% to 0.10%.

Additional considerations that were referred or raised for inclusion in JLARC review included the recruitment and retention of public safety staff and enhanced benefits for school resource officers, among other considerations. JLARC determined that some public safety staff suggested in interviews that enhanced retirement benefits would improve recruitment and retention, but other strategies could address these challenges more directly. Other strategies could include increasing salaries, higher starting salaries for new employees, larger and more regular salary increases for existing employees, signing and retention bonuses, larger health insurance premium subsidies, and additional mental health supports. JLARC also determined that school resource officers are already eligible for enhanced retirement benefits and that school security officers (SSOs) ranked lower on criteria for enhanced retirement benefits. Ultimately, JLARC concluded that some public safety occupations have similar levels of responsibility and demand but receive different levels of enhanced retirement benefits.

VACo appreciates the work of the JLARC staff in preparing this report and for the opportunity to be interviewed by JLARC staff during its composition. VACo also appreciates the work and data provided by VAcorp, which facilitated an analysis of workers' compensation claims data crucial to the findings of the report. VACo fully expects additional legislation for the 2024 session related to enhanced retirement benefits and will continue to work to prevent unfunded mandates being imposed on localities by preserving the local option to expand benefits to certain relevant occupations.

The full JLARC report and the slides from the JLARC staff presentation can be found [here](#) and [here](#) respectively.

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

I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan Updates



Members of the I-81 Advisory Committee from across the Commonwealth gathered in Lexington on October 2nd to discuss the status of the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan. The role of the [Committee](#) is to advise or make any recommendations to the Commonwealth Transportation Board regarding the [Plan](#). The meeting was positive in that updates to Interstate-81, and other related modes of transportations along the corridor, are being completed on time and the projects have the necessary funding.

Regarding general business of the I-81 Advisory Committee, the meeting in Lexington was attended by Virginia Secretary of Transportation Sheppard “Shep” Miller III, and his staff. Delegate Terry Austin (District 19) attended the meeting and is currently the Chair of the committee. Delegate Tony Wilt (District 26) who has been the Vice-Chair of the Committee, decided to yield that responsibility to Senator Creigh Deeds (District 25). Phil North, Chair of the VACo Transportation Steering Committee, also attended the meeting as a member of the I-81 Advisory Committee.

The success of Interstate-81 is critical to the success of western Virginia. I-81 is the main artery of transportation through this area and sees \$312 billion in goods while also accounting for 42% of Virginia’s interstate truck vehicle miles traveled. During the last meeting of the Committee on July 7, 2022, there were 23 completed projects with 15 projects underway. To date, there have been 34 completed projects with 6 projects currently being worked on, including:

- Road widening (3 projects, scheduled completion date 2026 and 2027)
- Additional truck climbing lane (3 projects, scheduled completion date in 2024 and 2025)

In total there are, as of now, 24 remaining projects for the Plan and these are anticipated to be completed by 2033. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) staff relayed to the Committee that operational improvements such as 43 VDOT signal improvements are completed while 39 are under construction. In addition, 111 Locality single improvements are underway and will be completed by 2025. Lastly, 45 miles of extended safety service patrols and a 24% reduction in incidence clearance time are notable improvements along the corridor. The full presentation on the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program update may be accessed [here](#).

The next topic of discussion was the I-81 Multimodal Improvement Plan which highlighted updates and information regarding [Virginia Breeze](#). Virginia Breeze is the State-sponsored intercity bus service that runs 7 days a week, 365 days a year. It currently services two routes that use Interstate-81, the Blacksburg to Washington, D.C. route (Valley Flyer) and the Bristol to Washington, D.C. route (Highlands Rhythm). The Virginia Breeze is a low-cost mode of transportation to connect rural communities to other parts of the Commonwealth. Staff from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) stated that the Virginia Breeze service performs very well. The Service for FY 23 had a recovery rate (% of cost covered by fares) of 54% and DRPT staff projects continued growth in ridership over the next few years. The full presentation on Virginia Breeze by DRPT may be found [here](#).

The financial overview of the I-81 Program was next on the agenda. After reviewing some history of the creation of funding opportunities for the Program, the general sense is that the Program's revenue continues to remain strong to support project delivery. New projections over the life of the current program will cost \$3.1 billion through 2033 which is more than last year's estimate of \$2.7 billion through 2033. All debt that is issued through the life of the Program (municipal bonds and Transportation Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act) will be supported by the I-81 Regional Fuels Tax. A breakdown of the program's financial status can be found [here](#).

VDOT finance staff also give an extended financial outlook for the I-81 Program. Revenue streams as currently laid out for the Program are set in perpetuity. Because of this, VDOT financial staff states that nearly \$1.9 billion in additional project costs can be supported through FY 2040, after the current Program completes in FY 2033.

The last update given to the Committee was on the feasibility of a Public-Private Partnership (P3) to accelerate I-81 project delivery. A "market sounding" process was initiated in January 2023 and six P3 developers responded. Five of the six firms stated P3 delivery was not a suitable solution. The consultants leading this P3 feasibility outreach assessed that while this is preliminary and high level, respondents say that capital expenditures could be significantly higher, revenues could be lower and this could lead to a larger public contribution toward the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan. More information on this can be seen [here](#).

VACo staff were in attendance for the meeting and will provide further updates on the I-81 Improvement Plan as they become available. Meeting materials from the October 2nd meeting may be found [here](#) and the I-81 Improvement Program website can be found [here](#). The entire recorded meeting and public comment section may be accessed [here](#).

VACo Contacts: [James Hutzler](#)

[illegible]

Commission staff found that the statutory mandate establishing the STEP-VA initiative and setting out the services to be provided is unclear, lacking specificity with regard to populations to be served and the type of services to be offered. Staff also explained that services have not been fully deployed statewide as originally intended, due in part to funding constraints, which have been exacerbated by inconsistent billing for Medicaid-covered services, as well as workforce challenges at CSBs. Staff also found that performance measures and benchmarks, when they have been adopted, do not adequately assess the quality of STEP-VA services, and that the CSBs' data system is a barrier to data collection and reporting. The Governor's Right Help, Right Now initiative includes elements that align with STEP-VA's goals, such as the focus on improving the crisis response system and the planned implementation of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Model.

- Clarify the intent of the STEP-VA initiative regarding access to essential behavioral health services and the scope of the STEP-VA service components that CSBs are required to provide to achieve full implementation.
- Direct the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to work with the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to assess the extent to which CSBs are

billing for Medicaid-eligible services and provide technical assistance and training on appropriate Medicaid billing and claiming practices.

- Direct DMAS to work with the managed care organizations involved with the state's Medicaid program to standardize, to the maximum extent practicable, policies, procedures, and requirements that CSBs must follow to receive reimbursement for Medicaid-funded services.
- Direct DBHDS to report annually to the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and to the Behavioral Health Commission on average salaries, turnover, and vacancy rates, by position type, across community services boards.
- Direct DBHDS to amend CSB performance contracts to require that any funding appropriated by the General Assembly to CSBs for staff compensation be used only for staff compensation.
- Direct DBHDS to identify all current requirements of CSB direct care staff related to documentation and reporting of behavioral health services that are duplicative or conflicting and eliminate non-essential requirements.
- Direct DBHDS to (i) finalize performance measures for every STEP-VA service component that has been initiated statewide, and (ii) finalize benchmarks for every STEP-VA service component that has been initiated statewide and to report these benchmarks to the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations committees and to the Behavioral Health Commission by December 1, 2024, and December 1, 2025, respectively. Direct DBHDS to report to the Behavioral Health Commission on the changes made to community services board performance contracts related to revised performance measures and benchmarks for each STEP-VA service component by December 1, 2024.
- Direct DBHDS to conduct a needs assessment to determine the unmet need for each of the nine service components of STEP-VA and develop an estimate of the cost of satisfying the unmet need for each of the nine STEP-VA service components statewide, with a report due by December 1, 2024.
- Direct DMAS to (i) ensure that comprehensive information about all available managed care organization preferred provider programs (which reduce administrative complexity by eliminating requirements for prior authorization for certain services) is provided to all CSBs.
- Direct the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to report to the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations committees and to the Behavioral Health Commission by December 1, 2024, on plans to implement the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model in the Commonwealth. Direct DMAS to examine how Virginia can most effectively and efficiently transition to a prospective payment system as required to fully adopt the CCBHC model.

Staff plans to provide Commission members with draft legislative and budget language for consideration at the Commission's December meeting. The Commission meets next on November 13.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Virginia Retirement System (VRS) Sets FY 2025-2026 Employer Contribution Rates for Teacher Plans

On October 19, the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) Board of Trustees [met](#) to review actuarial results for five statewide Retirement Plans (State Employees, Teachers, JRS, SPORS, and VaLORS) and the associated other post-employment benefits (OPEBs). Most relevant for county governments, employer contribution rates for the Teacher plan are expected to be reduced during the coming biennium from the current rate of 16.62% to 14.21%. The [VRS Board](#) unanimously approved the contribution rates. These rates have been sent to the Governor and money committees for consideration in preparation of the upcoming budget. If confirmed by the Governor and the General Assembly, this is likely to yield significant savings to the state and local governments, who share the costs associated with funding the Teacher plan. However, it is possible that the General Assembly and Governor may retain the existing contribution rates, as was the case for the current biennium.

During the meeting, the system actuary [presented](#) the results of the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation of the statewide pension plans and associated OPEBs programs. The rates for both plans benefited from the [significant](#) cash infusions by the General Assembly (\$750 million in FY22 and \$250 million in FY 23) have resulted in an estimated \$2 billion in savings over the next 20 years. Additionally, maintaining employer contribution rates has yielded \$548 million in savings. Board discussion with the actuaries revealed that maintaining the rates and the cash infusions likely reduced the recommended employer contribution rates for the Teacher plan by one percent and 0.4% respectively. Similar positive savings were incurred for the Other post-employment benefits (OPEB) plans.

VACo has traditionally supported and encouraged actions by the General Assembly to infuse the Fund as a prudent use of General Funds that yields long-term benefits to both state and local governments. Despite these efforts, changes to the overall funded status of the Teacher plan were only an increase of one percent to 80%, due to higher-than-expected salaries, mandatory cost-of-living increases, and other factors. However, VRS anticipates maintaining steady progress toward eliminating the remaining unfunded liability over the course of amortization. Depending on the rate of return for VRS investments, these efforts should allow for even lower employer contribution rates over time.

VRS uses the actuarial valuations for [employer contribution rate](#) setting on odd years in advance of the next biennium. The rates for the Teacher plan are presented in October, while the other most important plans to local governments (Political Subdivisions plans) are presented in November. The VRS staff actuary will present summary information for local governments at the Board's next meeting on November 16th, with rates mailed to localities after January 1, 2024. Final contribution rates will be available at the conclusion of the 2024 General Assembly and will take effect on July 1, 2024 for FY 2025 and FY 2026. VACo will report on these events as they develop.

More information on the meeting can be found [here](#).

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

Joint Commission on Health Care Discusses Obesity and Eating Disorders, Prescription Drug Affordability, Plans for 2024



In addition to receiving several staff briefings on issues covered in its 2023 workplan, the Joint Commission on Health Care began to develop its study plan for 2024 at its October 18 meeting, approving several studies in concept in advance of reviewing formal study resolutions at a future meeting.

Obesity and eating disorders prevention and treatment: Staff briefed the Commission on the results of this study, which was directed by legislation in 2022. Staff was directed to examine the prevalence of obesity and eating disorders; identify evidence-based strategies for prevention, early identification, and treatment; determine the extent to which Medicaid and state-regulated health plans cover these services; and identify barriers for patients and families seeking treatment. Staff found that 34 percent of Virginians were obese in 2021, and that there was a large increase in the number of Medicaid members diagnosed with obesity between 2014 and 2021; however, coverage of treatment services (such as behavioral interventions, weight loss drugs, and bariatric surgery) varies, with Virginia's Medicaid program generally providing some coverage for these services, while the state's Essential Health Benefits benchmark plan (a set of benefits that comprehensive individual and small group health insurance coverage must provide) does not specify coverage for behavioral interventions, does not cover weight loss drugs, and does not cover bariatric surgery. Coverage of these services by health insurance plans varies.

Staff's analysis of eating disorder prevalence and treatment options found that there was an increase in eating disorder cases within the Medicaid-covered population during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the largest increase among adults between 19-29 years of age. Eating disorders are difficult to diagnose, as

individuals may also present with other mental health conditions, such as anxiety or depression. While most eating disorders can be treated in outpatient programs, access is limited by low reimbursement rates from commercial insurance and the lack of an established Medicaid rate specific to eating disorder services, as well as requirements for prior authorization by some health insurance carriers. A policy option proposed by staff was a directive to the Department of Medical Assistance Services to conduct a rate study to develop rates for residential, partial hospitalization, and intensive outpatient services for eating disorder treatment; another option was potential legislation to require all Medicaid managed care organizations and state-regulated health insurers to eliminate prior authorization for eating disorder services. Public comments on the [study recommendations](#) are due by November 3 and may be provided via email to jchcpubliccomments@jchc.virginia.gov or via U.S. Mail to 411 E. Franklin Street, Suite 505, Richmond, VA 23219.

Prescription drug affordability: Staff provided information on the impact of prescription drug-related provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the implications of recent federal litigation on state regulation of health plans that are governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). The Inflation Reduction Act requires manufacturers that raise drug prices faster than the rate of inflation (based on a reference price calculated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) to pay rebates to Medicare; one expected effect of this requirement is that drug rebates for Medicaid will be reduced (because these rebates are based on average manufacturer prices, which are expected to decrease), but the full effect is still unclear. The IRA's redesign of the Medicare Part D benefit is expected to affect a small number of Medicare beneficiaries who experience high prescription drug costs, but the savings will be significant for affected members. The IRA also allows Medicare to negotiate prices of certain drugs, which is expected to reduce the Medicare price of a limited subset of certain high-cost drugs, with negotiated prices for the first ten drugs selected for negotiations taking effect in 2026.

Planned studies for 2024: Members of the Commission's Executive Subcommittee discussed a number of potential ideas for studies prior to the full Commission's meeting. Study topics given preliminary approval by the full Commission for 2024 included a continued focus on the health care workforce; a comprehensive study of community health supports (to include community paramedicine, home visiting, supports for older adults to assist in aging in place, and supports for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities); a study of issues related to access to health care and social determinants of health; and a study of services for individuals in long-term care facilities with traumatic brain injuries. The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for November 13.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)



PHOTOS AND INFORMATION FROM
[Virginia State Parks Twitter](#)



Introducing our recently dedicated, 42nd state park, Sweet Run!

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<https://dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/sweet-run>

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2023 Catalog of State and Federal Mandates on Local Governments Now Available



The Commission on Local Government has officially approved and published the much-anticipated 2023 edition of the Catalog of State and Federal Mandates on Local Governments. This resource is a result of collaborative efforts among various agencies.

The Commission's approval of the 2023 version took place on September 8, 2023, in accordance with the Code of Virginia, §15.2-2903(7), which mandates the Commission to prepare and regularly update this comprehensive catalog.

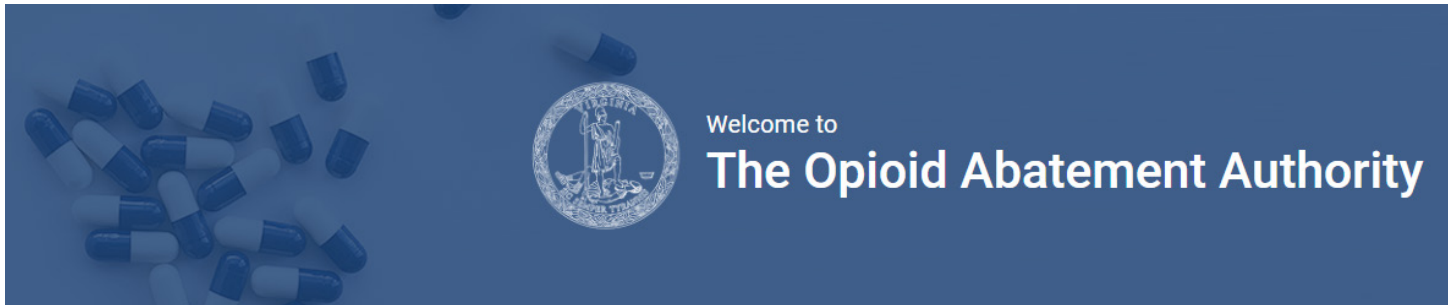
The catalog is readily accessible online, and you can explore it by visiting the following link: <https://dmz1.dhcd.virginia.gov/MandatesSearch/MandatesSearch.aspx>

The Commission values local government input and encourage you to share your comments, suggestions, and questions with the dedicated staff of the Commission on Local Government. Your feedback is crucial in ensuring that this resource remains relevant and useful for all stakeholders.

Should you have any questions or require further information about this document or any related matters, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission or VACo.

Opioid Abatement Authority Board of Directors Meeting Announcement

Noon - 3pm Tuesday, November 14 | Omni Homestead | Bath County



VACo is excited to announce the upcoming Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) Board of Directors meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, following the VACo Annual Business Meeting. The board meeting will be held at the Omni Homestead in Bath County.

About the Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA)

Established by the Virginia General Assembly in 2021, the OAA serves as an independent entity dedicated to abating and remediating the opioid epidemic in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Through financial support from the Virginia Opioid Abatement Fund, which comprises grants, donations, and other forms of assistance, the OAA is committed to combating opioid use disorder and the misuse of opioids through various initiatives. The Authority's primary mission is to foster partnerships among Virginia's cities and counties, state agencies, and service providers. These collaborations aim to provide comprehensive support to individuals suffering from opioid use disorders and co-occurring substance use and mental illness.

Important Information for Cities and Counties

The Authority understands the critical role that cities and counties play in addressing the opioid epidemic within respective communities. Therefore, the Authority invites all cities and counties to participate in their grant programs, which include:

- **Individual Distribution Grants:** Designed to support localized initiatives addressing opioid-related issues.
- **"Gold Standard" Incentive Grants:** Recognizing outstanding efforts in combating the opioid crisis.
- **Cooperative Partnerships Grants:** Encouraging collaboration among various stakeholders to maximize the impact of opioid abatement efforts.

Detailed information regarding these grants and the application process can be found on the OAA's Grants Portal ([Opioid Abatement Authority \(virginia.gov\)](https://www.virginia.gov/oaa/grants)) and accessible through our website at www.vaco.org. We encourage all eligible entities to apply for, amend, or renew their grant applications to further the OAA's mission and create a safer, healthier future for all Virginians.

Again, Join Us at the Board of Directors Meeting

Your presence and input are invaluable as we work together to combat the opioid epidemic. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this important gathering. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those affected by opioid use disorder and contribute to a healthier and more resilient Virginia.

Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards
at Board of Supervisors Meetings



Congratulations Dinwiddie County!

Gage Harter with the Virginia Association of Counties attended this afternoon's Board of Supervisors meeting to present Dinwiddie with the "Best Small County" Award for its City Planning Project.

Mr. Harter noted that Dinwiddie's project was selected from among 33 Achievement Award winners this year and added, "Dinwiddie County is the only locality to have been named Best Small County twice." Dinwiddie was named Best Small County in 2020 for its Faith-Based Initiative.

Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards
at Board of Supervisors Meetings



Congratulations Arlington County!

Congratulations to Arlington County for winning two Achievement Awards!

Both winning programs - an addiction recovery initiative and a guardianship program - came from Arlington County's Department of Human Services.

Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards
at Board of Supervisors Meetings



Congratulations Cumberland County!

Congratulations Cumberland County for winning an Achievement Award for its Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Cumberland County also won an Achievement Award in 2008 and in 2022.

PRESS RELEASE



Howard Kartel Joins VIP Board of Trustee; de la Pava, Longnaker, and Powers Re-elected

RICHMOND (September 27, 2023)— The Annual Meeting of the VACo/VML Virginia Investment Pool (VIP) elected Howard A. Kartel, CPA, Town of Culpeper, to its Board of Trustees and returned incumbent members Carla de la Pava, Arlington County; Rebecca Longnaker, Chesterfield County; and Evelyn Powers, City of Roanoke with new three-year terms.

VIP manages assets of participants in two funds, the Stable NAV Liquidity Pool and the 1-3 Year High Quality Bond Fund. Founded in 2013, the Trust holds \$2.65 Billion in assets as of June 30, 2023. The Board of Trustees, comprised of officials who are elected by participating political subdivisions, establishes policies and oversees the VIP governmental trust.

The VIP participants elected the following:

Carla de la Pava, Treasurer of Arlington County. First elected to office in November 2014, she serves the County's 250,000 residents. The County of Arlington's tax delinquency rate stands at an all-time low of 0.157%, recognized as the best in Virginia. Carla was the President of the Treasurers' Association of Virginia (TAV) for 2019 and 2020 and is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and the Virginia GFOA. She has served on the VIP Board of Trustees since 2015.

Howard A. Kartel, CPA, MBA, Director of Finance and Treasurer, Town of Culpeper. Howard graduated from Bentley University with a degree in accounting and earned an MBA from Dowling College. Howard is a TAV member, achieving the MGT designation in 2019. Howard oversees a portfolio of \$50 million, and has implemented a long-term financial plan that includes a Strategic Reserves Policy. Previously, Howard was the Accounting Manager for PWC Service Authority, a position he held for ten years.

Rebecca Longnaker, CPA, Treasurer of Chesterfield County. Serving as Treasurer since 2020, Rebecca is responsible for handling the banking and investments for the County and School Division and, in a fiscal agent capacity, for the Greater Richmond Convention Center (GRCCA) and Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CTVA). In addition to utilizing VIP for managing a major portion of County funds, Rebecca has created VIP portfolios for GRCCA and CVTA, providing an increasing revenue stream to the agencies.

Evelyn Powers, Treasurer for the City of Roanoke. Evelyn was the driving force to get her office to meet accreditation standards for the first time in 2008. She has served in many board positions and is a Past President of the Treasurers' Association of Virginia. She was a founding member of the VACo/VML Virginia Investment Pool Trust Fund and currently serves as Vice-Chairman, a position she has held since 2013.

VML/VACo Finance is the financial services arm of the Virginia Association of Counties and Virginia Municipal League.

For more information:

Robert Lauterberg, Managing Director
Phone: 804-648-0635
rlauterberg@valocalfinance.org

VML/VACo Finance
8 E Canal Street
Richmond, Va. 23219
www.valocalfinance.org



PRESS RELEASE

VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust Announces New Board Members

RICHMOND (September 27, 2023) – At the Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Meeting of Participants, the VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust elected four finance officers to its Board of Trustees, including two first-time members. Joining the Board of Trustees for the first time are Steven Owen of the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority; and Sharon Willoughby of Loudoun County Public Schools. They join incumbent members Sheila Minor of Henrico County; and Jeffery Weiler of Fairfax County Retirement Systems, who was also reelected as Chairman.

The VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust manages assets invested by political subdivisions to fund retiree health insurance and other post-employment benefits (“OPEB”). Local governments that invest in the Pooled OPEB Trust have reduced the long-term cost of providing benefits by as much as 47 percent, the portion of the current market value of the Trust generated by investment returns. Established in 2008, the Trust manages \$1.7 billion in assets as of June 30, 2023.

Congratulations to the following newly elected members of the Board of Trustees:

Sheila Minor, CPA, has served as the Director of Finance for Henrico County since December 2020. Her 24-year local government career includes serving as the Director of Finance for the City of Colonial Heights and Prince George County. Sheila worked with numerous localities and school divisions as an independent local government financial consultant from 2011-2017. She holds a B.S. degree in Business Management and an M.P.A. from Virginia Tech.

Steven Owen, CPA, joined Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority in February 2023. He previously served as the Director of Finance for the Capital Region Airport Commission for 24 years. Steven oversees all planning, organizing, and directing of finance related activities. Steven earned a B.S. degree from Elmira College and an A.A.S degree in Accounting from Middlesex County College.

Jeffery Weiler is the Executive Director of Fairfax County Retirement Systems and oversees three local pension funds: the Employees, Police, and Uniformed Retirement Systems. These systems have a combined \$7.4 billion in assets in service to and support of 18,000 active employees and 9,500 retirees. Mr. Weiler has served as the Chairman for the VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust since 2017.

Sharon Willoughby has spent 25 years in local government. She has worked for Loudoun County Public Schools since 2015 and became Chief Financial Officer in 2018. She holds an MBA from Webster University and a bachelor’s degree from Northern Arizona University.

VML/VACo Finance is the administrator of the VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust.

For more information:

Robert Lauterberg, Managing Director
rlauterberg@valocalfinance.org
Phone: 804-648-0635

VML/VACo Finance
8 E Canal Street
Richmond, VA 23219



The Most Ever

Remember the adage “Make hay while the sun shines, so you have it to survive on during the rainy days.” Cash shouldn’t be considered one of your priorities, but rather your #1 priority.

Today, most public entities are holding the greatest amount of cash they ever had. A stronger- than-expected economy, internet sales tax, unprecedented federal dollars, and coupled with greater fund balances, have put public entities in their strongest position ever with their cash balances.

As a result, generating cash is not necessarily a top priority for public finance officials. Personally, as a public treasurer myself, I’ve heard those very comments all too often. The main priorities that make their top list right now are public safety, education, job retention, hiring skilled personnel, migrant management, housing...the list goes on. At this point, cash is likely at the bottom of the list.

With such a list of priorities, the top concern for public finance officials is how to manage them all.

A first step in planning is to budget and fund the programs. That’s where we come back to cash as the priority. We’ve all heard the phrase “cash makes cash.” In today’s interest-rate environment, the value of cash is at least 5.5%, which can make all the difference between funding a program or not. And, once you do, how you can keep the program financially viable going forward.

Today may be sunny days for cash. But remember the adage “Make hay while the sun shines, so you have it to survive on during the rainy days.” Cash shouldn’t be considered one of your priorities, but rather your #1 priority.

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH



FROM THE NACO CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

October 2023 marks **20 years**
of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month!

As security education expands across organizations, so do the cyberthreats they face. In response, counties across the country are joining the NACo Cybersecurity Leadership Academy: a 12 week [virtual course](#) with the latest insights from industry experts and current CIOs/CISOs in the field, as well as the opportunity to network with cybersecurity professionals across the nation. It coaches participants on what it means to think and act as a cybersecurity leader.

**Throughout October, NACo is extending an
Academy BOGO to every county.**

Your county's first participant can join for \$1,995, and a second participant can join for FREE! The next Cybersecurity Leadership Academy kicks off January 8th. You can find out more at naco.org/cyberskills or reach out to our Academy contact, Luke Afeman (LukeA@pdaLeadership.com) to claim your BOGO.

Is your county prepared for a cyberattack?





Register now for the NACo 2023 Rural Action Caucus (RAC) Symposium

November 5–7 | Greenbrier County, WV

We invite you to register today for the National Association of Counties (NACo) [Rural Action Caucus \(RAC\) 2023 Fall Symposium](#) in Greenbrier County, West Virginia.

Elected and appointed county officials, national thought leaders and partners will identify rural challenges and elevate solutions through information exchanges and policy discussions. This unique event is an opportunity to engage with your peers and national experts on topics important to rural America, including broadband deployment, rural development, workforce challenges, substance abuse and community resilience.

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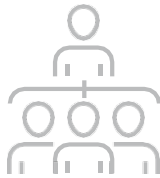
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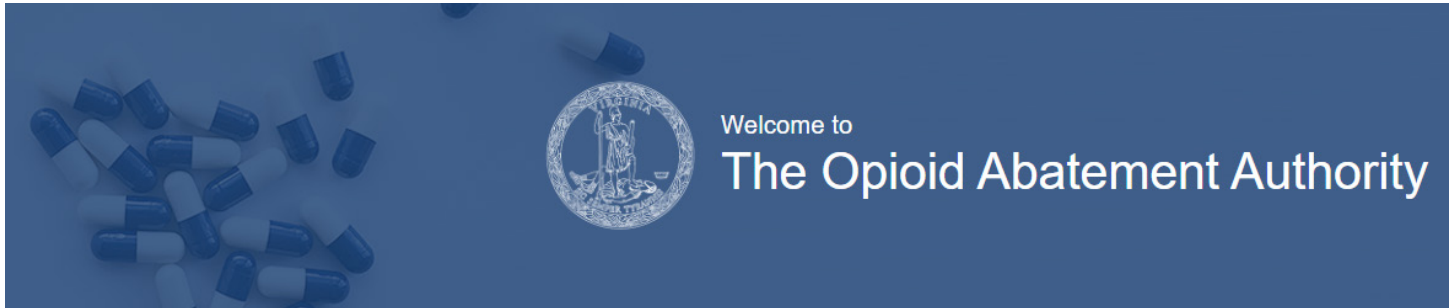
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Best Practices for Local Governments in the Allocation of Opioid Settlement Funding

Tony McDowell, Executive Director | Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority

Virginia has already received settlements worth more than \$500 million from prescription opioid manufacturers and distributors, and that number could double. Most of these funds will flow to Virginia's cities and counties for efforts to abate the opioid crisis. As Virginia's cities and counties develop local and regional plans for the use of these funds, some best practices are beginning to emerge.

The first of these is **establishing a local abatement committee** comprised of various stakeholders including prevention and treatment specialists, public health, behavioral health, law enforcement, and people with lived experience.

Some communities are holding **town hall style public meetings** or listening sessions so that local leaders can hear from residents who have been directly affected by the prescription opioid epidemic, as well as from service providers and community-based organizations. The OAA's Board of Directors has been following this approach, and has already conducted six public listening sessions around the state. The feedback from these sessions has been instrumental in informing the Board's strategy for allocating grants.

Local governments are encouraged to **engage with community partners**, especially those that have already been fighting the opioid epidemic for years. This certainly includes the local Community Services Board, but in addition there are many non-profits, grassroot organizations, treatment providers, and recovery support organizations that want to be involved. During its listening sessions the OAA Board has heard numerous examples of such organizations that have been barely surviving financially, working off of donations and volunteer effort. These organizations often know exactly how to reach the people who are sick and suffering, and have a track record of stretching dollars for maximum impact. The OAA is only able to provide funding to cities, counties and state agencies. This means the opioid settlement funds will not reach these non-government organizations unless there is a partnership with the local government.

The OAA is committed to providing assistance to cities and counties in developing their abatement plans. We offer **planning grants** and are in the process of launching a series of best-practice webinars and workshops. For more information please visit us at www.voaa.us.



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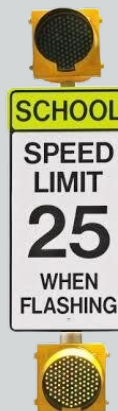


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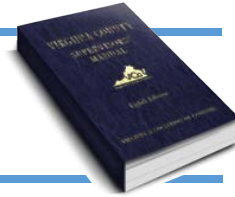


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[FITNESS ATTENDANT](#) | James City County | Posted October 6

[SENIOR ENGINEER \(PT\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted October 6

[SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted October 6

[EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GENERALIST](#) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted October 6

[DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT](#) | Isle of Wight County | Posted October 6

[COUNTY ATTORNEY](#) | Rockbridge County | Posted October 5

[BUDGET ANALYST](#) | Montgomery County | Posted October 5

[SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT](#) | Montgomery County | Posted October 5

[FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST](#) | Montgomery County | Posted October 5

[FAMILY SERVICES SUPERVISOR](#) | Montgomery County | Posted October 3

[ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST](#) | Montgomery County | Posted October 3

[JUDICIAL LAW CLERK](#) | Montgomery County | Posted October 3

[DEVELOPMENT MANAGER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted October 3

[SENIOR CLINICIAN-ACT EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted October 3

[EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT \(JOB COACH\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted October 3

[CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER](#) | City of Fredericksburg | Posted October 3

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted October 3

[ENGINEERING MANAGER](#) | Augusta Water | Posted October 3

[DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) | Prince George County | Posted October 1

[DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE](#) | Shenandoah County | Posted October 1

[REAL ESTATE APPRAISER](#) | Fairfax County | Posted September 27

[DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PARKS & RECREATION](#) | Hanover County | Posted September 27

[ENGINEERING SUPERVISOR](#) | Chesterfield County | September 25

[MEDICAL BILLING TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted September 25

[PEER RECOVERY SPECIALIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted September 25

[RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR \(IN-HOME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted September 25

[CENTRAL PROCESSING DESK COORDINATOR](#) | Fauquier County | Posted September 25

[TECHNICIAN I – GROUNDS](#) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted September 20

[COMPUTER-AIDED DISPATCH \(CAD\) & 911 SPECIALIST \(HRECC\)](#) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted September 20

[SOFTWARE PORTFOLIO SPECIALIST \(HRECC\)](#) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted September 20

[COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) | Nottoway County | Posted September 20

[DEPUTY COMMISSIONER III](#) | James City County | Posted September 20

[ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR I/II/III](#) | James City County | Posted September 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

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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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