

# VACo Analysis of Governor's Introduced Budget



On December 20, Governor Youngkin presented his budget proposals for the upcoming 2024-2026 biennium, as well as amendments to the current biennium budget in the “caboose” budget bill. The Governor described his proposal as the “Unleashing Opportunity” budget, making a case that tax reform and investments in business recruitment and workforce readiness are necessary to enable Virginia to compete with peer states for job and population growth.

Tax restructuring is a major component of the Governor’s proposal, which would include (1) reducing individual income tax rates in each tax bracket by an average of 12 percent; (2) increasing the statewide sales tax rate by 0.9 percentage point; (3) capturing certain digital products and services, such as digital downloads, website hosting and design, and streaming music and video, in the sales tax base; and (4) expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to 25 percent of the federal credit.

Of particular interest to local governments, the Governor challenged the legislature to work to eliminate the car tax and suggested that the lost revenue could be replaced with an increase in the

local sales tax. A specific proposal is not included in the budget submission, and the Governor gestured toward the complexity of finding an appropriate replacement in describing permanent elimination of the car tax as “a complicated, yet worthy aspiration” that will require collaboration among state and local leaders. Following the release of the Governor’s budget, VACo participated in a meeting with representatives of the Administration and several state agencies to discuss gathering data on current collections from the car tax.

The Governor also outlined proposed investments in job creation, pointing to his recommended funding for Virginia Business Ready Sites; workforce development; development of a biotechnology, life sciences, and pharmaceutical manufacturing innovation network to create a “research triangle” in Virginia; and support for child care to ensure continued access after the expiration of federal funds. Other priority areas include investments in behavioral health and water quality.

## **Revenues**

The Governor’s budget assumes a mild recession beginning in the fourth quarter of FY 2024 and lasting through the second quarter of FY 2025. The budget forecasts a general fund revenue decline in FY 2024 of 0.6 percent (an upward revision from the earlier projection of a 5.5 percent decline), and general fund revenue growth of 1.4 percent in FY 2025 and 5.4 percent in FY 2026 (these figures include tax policy changes incorporated in the Governor’s budget). The budget also includes a transfer to the General Fund from the Revenue Reserve Fund of amounts above the statutory cap. Virginia Code limits combined deposits to the Revenue Stabilization Fund and Revenue Reserve Fund to 15 percent of the average of the prior three years’ annual income and sales tax revenues; a provision in the last biennium budget has overridden this language and allowed the combined fund balances to reach 20 percent of the prior three years’ average income and sales tax revenues. Transferring funds in excess of the 15 percent cap would make approximately \$805 million over the biennium available for use.

An overview of key items in the budget follows below.

## **Grocery tax reimbursement**

- The Governor’s budget fails to maintain the state’s commitment to replace lost revenue for K-12 associated with elimination of the state’s portion of the sales and use tax on food, which took effect January 1, 2023. Language in the budget proposes to override the statutory requirement to provide an amount equal to the revenue that would have been distributed for this purpose had the state portion of the “grocery tax” not been eliminated. This action runs contrary to the understanding at the time the state portion of the grocery tax was eliminated that the revenue replacement would be ongoing – an understanding incorporated into statute. When questioned by Senate Finance Co-Chairman George Barker about this proposal, DPB Director Michael Maul indicated that the Administration’s expectation is that the additional revenue generated by the expansion of the sales tax will make up for the elimination of this funding.

## **Compensation**

- Provides the state’s share of a 1 percent bonus payment for funded SOQ instructional and support positions (\$53 million), effective July 1, 2024; these funds require a local match based on the LCI. Also provides the state’s share of a 2 percent salary increase, effective July 1, 2025, for funded SOQ instructional and support positions (\$122.8 million). The state’s share would be prorated for school divisions that provide less than an average 2 percent salary increase, but a school division must provide at least an average 1 percent salary increase in FY 2026 to access the funds.

- Provides for a 1 percent bonus payment for state employees and state-supported local employees on December 1, 2024. Provides for a 1 percent salary increase for state and state-supported local employees on July 1, 2025. Provides for another 1 percent bonus payment for state and state-supported local employees on December 1, 2025.

## **K-12**

- Does not propose items recommended in the recent JLARC report on public education funding.
- Includes \$160.6 million over the biennium for rebenchmarking of the Standards of Quality.
- Recognizes an additional \$23.9 million in FY 2025 and \$61.8 million in FY 2026 in additional sales tax revenues associated with the proposed expansion of the sales tax base to capture certain services and digital personal property.
- Provides \$40 million over the biennium for the new Diploma Plus program, which would provide grants to high school students to support attainment of high-demand industry-recognized credentials.
- Deposits \$115 million in General Funds and \$235 million from the Literary Fund in FY 2025 to the VRS teacher retirement plan to address unfunded liabilities. Uses \$150 million per year from the Literary Fund (rather than the General Fund) for school employee retirement contributions.
- Provides \$61.2 million over the biennium for the state share of one reading specialist position per 550 students in grades 4-5 and one reading specialist position per 1,100 students in grades 6-8, in accordance with legislation passed in 2023.
- Appropriates \$80 million per year from casino gambling proceeds deposited into the School Construction Fund for the School Construction Assistance Program.
- Directs the Secretary of Education to convene a stakeholder workgroup to make recommendations on the regional, comparative, and differentiated pay analysis identified in the Competitive Teacher Pay Report from 2023, and the implementation of a teacher compensation model that includes student outcomes and meets recommendations identified in the 2023 report.
- Provides \$25 million in FY 2025 and \$15 million in FY 2026 for a new statewide assessment system (\$10 million of the first year spending is one-time funding for transition costs).
- Provides \$200,000 per year to establish the position of Chief School Mental Health Officer.
- Deposits \$30 million per year to the College Partnership Laboratory Schools Fund.
- Provides \$800,000 per year in Lottery funds to Accomack County and Northampton County school divisions for teacher recruitment and retention efforts.
- Incorporates a series of technical adjustments in FY 2024 in the caboose budget, as follows:
  - Updates Average Daily Membership projections (reduction of \$58.7 million)
  - Updates categorical programs (increase of \$919,155)
  - Updates distributions for school age population (reduction of \$14,725)
  - Updates enrollment data for English as a Second language (reduction of \$4 million)
  - Updates fall membership data for Direct Aid programs (reduction of approximately \$800,000)
  - Captures an increase in Lottery proceeds of \$89.5 million
  - Adjusts participation projections for Lottery-funded programs (reduction of \$18.6 million)
  - Updates costs for Remedial Summer School (reduction of \$2.7 million)
  - Updates sales tax revenues (reduction of \$71.4 million)
  - Updates support for National Board Certified Teacher bonuses (reduction of approximately \$600,000)

- Incorporates a series of technical adjustments in the caboose and biennium budgets, as captured in the following table:

	FY 2024 (caboose)	FY 2025	FY 2026
Updates Average Daily Membership projections	(\$58.7 million)	(\$34.7 million)	(\$53.1 million)
Updates categorical programs	\$919,155	\$865,000	\$901,000
Updates incentive programs	(\$37.2 million)	(\$5.5 million)	(\$6.4 million)
Updates distribution for school age population	(\$14,725)	\$387,000	\$387,000
Updates ESL enrollment data	(\$4 million)	(\$4 million)	(\$6.6 million)
Updates fall membership data for Direct Aid programs	(\$800,000)	(\$1.2 million)	(\$1.6 million)
Updates Lottery proceeds	Replaces \$89.5 million GF with additional Lottery proceeds	Replaces \$2.3 million Lottery with GF	Replaces \$2.3 million Lottery with GF
Adjusts participation projections for Lottery-funded programs	(\$18.6 million)	(\$8.7 million)	(\$3.5 million)
Updates costs for Remedial Summer School	(\$2.7 million)	(\$760,000)	(\$3.5 million)
Updates sales tax revenues	(\$71.4 million)	(\$47 million)	(\$16.1 million)
Updates National Board Certified Teacher bonuses	(\$600,000)	(\$537,500)	(\$537,500)
Updates Local Composite Index		(\$30.8 million)	(\$30.5 million)
Captures savings from lower VRS teacher retirement employer contribution rates		(\$59.8 million)	(\$59.8 million)
Updates career and technical education data		\$13 million	\$13 million
Updates SOL test score data		\$2.1 million	\$2.1 million
Updates VRS rates for non-professional retirement and health insurance credit		\$2.7 million	\$2.6 million

**Office of Emergency Medical Services**

- Exempts the Office of Emergency Medical Services from making an otherwise required transfer of \$12.5 million to the General Fund in FY 2024 or FY 2025. This action is intended to address a shortfall in funding for local EMS needs.





[Photo Credit: Mojo Hand](#)

## Visit King George County and the King George County Historic Courthouse

**Location:** 9383 Kings Highway / Rectory Lane

**Built:** 1922 – 1923

**Style:** Classical Revival

**Architect:** E G Heflin of Fredericksburg

**Contractor:** Unknown

**Description:** The building faces south and is a one story red colored brick and concrete structure. The south front has a central portico with four white colored columns rising to a pediment with fanlight at the roof line. The recessed door is arched with large arched windows on either side. The roof is hipped at the center section. The building extends east and west with a flat roof line. The building was remodeling in 1960 and in 1973, the building was enlarged. The architect was Robert J Leary and the contractor was Milton L Hammond.

**SOURCE:** [courthouses.co](http://courthouses.co)



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# SAVE THE DATES!

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## **VACo/VML/VAPDC Local Government Day**

**Thursday, February 1, 2024  
Richmond Marriott**

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## **VACo/VML Legislative Reception**

**Thursday, February 1, 2024  
Richmond Marriott**

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## **VACo Chairpersons' Institute**

**Friday, February 2, 2024 and  
Saturday, February 3, 2024  
VACo Headquarters**

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Join us for these important events.

Call VACo at 804.788.6652 for more information



V A C o / V M L / V A P D C

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT



# DAY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024  
RICHMOND MARRIOTT HOTEL

Name

Title

County/Organization

Email

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date

**NAME ON CARD**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Refund Policy: Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by January 12, 2024. Substitutions are allowed in the event a supervisor is unable to attend. For more information, call 804.343.2507.

### EVENT DETAILS

**LOCATION** | Richmond Marriott Hotel  
**TIME AND DATE** | Thursday, February 1

### COST - PLEASE CHECK ONE

- \$100 Day Briefing Only (Noon - 2pm)
- \$100 Reception Only (530pm)
- \$150 Day Briefing and Reception

### AGENDA

- 9am** | VACo Board of Directors Meeting
- 10am** | Registration
- 1130am** | Lunch
- Noon** | Local Government Day
- Afternoon** | Visit the Capitol to speak with legislators
- 530pm** | Reception

FAX COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM WITH CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO 804.788.0083.

OR PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VACo. MAIL CHECK AND REGISTRATION FORM TO 1207 EAST MAIN STREET, RICHMOND, VA 23219.

**Hotel Reservation Details:** Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. Local Government Day is held at the Richmond Marriott Hotel, 500 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates start at \$179 (single room occupancy). To reserve a hotel room, call 800.228.9290 by January 9, 2024, with this code: **Local Government Day** or reserve a room at this [Richmond Marriott Hotel link](#).

THANK YOU FOR REGISTERING!

# CHAIRPERSONS' INSTITUTE



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024 AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024**

**\$350 attendee | Breakout Sessions at VACo HEADQUARTERS**

Meals and Accommodation at [Richmond Marriott Hotel](#)

Transportation is provided

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY/ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON THE CARD: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel Reservation Details:** Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. Lodging for the Chairpersons' Institute is at the Richmond Marriott Hotel, 500 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates start at \$179 (single room occupancy). To reserve a hotel room, call 800.228.9290 by January 9, 2024, with this code: **VACo Local Government Day** or reserve a room at this [Richmond Marriott Hotel link](#).

**Fax completed registration form with credit card information to 804.788.0083.**

PLEASE CONTACT  
VALERIE RUSSELL AT  
[VRUSSELL@VACO.ORG](mailto:VRUSSELL@VACO.ORG)  
WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

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



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

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



**Refund Policy:** Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by January 12, 2024. Substitutions are allowed in the event a supervisor is unable to attend. For more information, call VACo at 804.343.2507.



# REGISTRATION FORM

— SUPERVISORS' CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



JANUARY 24 - MARCH 27 | COST - \$450

## MODULE 1 - BUDGETING

Open to all county supervisors, this exciting course comprises an opening class session, virtual cohort meetings, and a closing class session. As one of the three courses within VACo's Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program, this course tackles the tough topic of county budgeting led by Class Manager **Suzette Denslow**. Don't miss this opportunity to build relationships with your fellow supervisors, learn from some of Virginia's most experienced local officials, and engage through meaningful discussions and learning materials. **Join the Class of 2024!**

[Supervisors' Certification Program Website](#)

NAME

JOB TITLE

COUNTY

MAILING ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

### PAYMENT INFORMATION

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE (MM/YY)

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

SIGNATURE

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR CREDIT CARD RECEIPT

**MODULE 1 - BUDGETING | COST - \$450 | REGISTER ONLINE**

**Opening Session - January 24 | Closing Session - March 27**

Opening and Closing Sessions will be at **VACo Headquarters**



Fax completed registration form with credit card information to 804.788.0083. Or please make check payable to VACo. Mail check and completed registration form to 1207 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Or [click here](#) to register online.

THANK YOU FOR REGISTERING!

[www.vaco.org](http://www.vaco.org)

Please return completed form to VACo by January 12, 2024.

**REFUND POLICY:** Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by January 19, 2024.

Please contact Karie Walker at [kwalker@vaco.org](mailto:kwalker@vaco.org) with questions.

# Stafford County Selects Finance Director



Stafford County Administrator Randal Vosburg announces the selection of Randy Helwig as the County's next Finance Director. Helwig has worked in the Finance Department of Stafford County government for 10 years, serving most recently as Finance Controller. He also brings 28 years of private sector experience to his new position.

"Randy possesses the professional skills and existing work relationships that will streamline his transition to director," said Vosburg. "Finance is a vital department, central to everything Stafford does for the community daily, and Randy will provide much-needed continuity with his leadership."

"Stafford County has changed tremendously over my 10 years with the County, and our work in Finance has expanded exponentially," stated Helwig. "I am confident my skills and work experience with the department will help me lead my staff as the county's population continues to grow."

After 28 years in the private sector, Helwig started in the public sector working for PRTC before joining Stafford County in March of 2013. He began his career as a general accountant with Stafford and was promoted to Accounting Manager before becoming Finance Controller in 2016.

During his tenure at Stafford, Helwig became a member of the Governmental Officers Finance Association (GFOA) and the Virginia chapter (VGFOA). He completed the Virginia Government Finance Officers Certificate Program in 2018, which requires courses in various government finance disciplines, including debt management, grants, risk management, cash management, budgeting, Financial Statement preparation, Internal Controls, Human Resources, Virginia Government and Law and Advanced Governmental Accounting.

Helwig graduated from Lynchburg College with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He lives in Spotsylvania County with his wife, Heidi. They have two grown daughters, Sarah and Laura, and a grandson, Colton.

## VACo requests feedback on bill to mandate public hearings to fill interim board positions



The 2024 Virginia General Assembly will consider legislation to require local governing bodies and elected school boards, when making an interim appointment to fill a vacancy in membership, to both publish notice and hold a public hearing on the appointment.

[HB 69 \(Bulova\)](#) also specifies that at such meeting, “... *the body or board shall announce the names of all persons being proposed for the interim appointment and shall make available for inspection each person’s resume and any other materials required by the body or board.*”

VACo seeks input from members regarding how this legislative mandate may impact current practices and procedures for filling interim appointments. Please send comments to Jeremy Bennett to [jbennett@vaco.org](mailto:jbennett@vaco.org).

**VACo Contact:** [Jeremy R. Bennett](#) and [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)

## Governor's Introduced Budget May Impact State Funding for the Virginia Preschool Initiative for Certain Localities



Governor Youngkin's introduced budget makes several changes to how the state shares the costs of slots in the Virginia Preschool Initiative ([VPI](#)). One such change eliminates the current cap of 0.5 on the Composite Index of Local Ability to Pay (LCI) for these programs. This has the potential to negatively alter existing funding for 27 localities.

VPI distributes state funds to schools and community-based organizations to provide quality preschool programs for at-risk four-year-olds unserved by the federal Head Start program. The purpose of the grant is to reduce disparities among young children upon formal school entry and to reduce or eliminate those risk factors that lead to early academic failure. This program has a local match for funding. Like most K-12 state funding, the local match is determined by each locality's LCI. More information on the LCI can be accessed [here](#).

The following counties and cities have LCIs that are higher than the current cap of 0.5:

- ALBEMARLE
- ARLINGTON
- BATH
- CHARLES CITY
- CLARKE
- FAIRFAX COUNTY
- FAUQUIER
- GOOCHLAND
- HIGHLAND



- JAMES CITY
- LANCASTER
- LOUDOUN
- LOUISA
- MATHEWS
- MIDDLESEX
- NELSON
- NORTHUMBERLAND
- POWHATAN
- RAPPAHANNOCK
- SURRY
- ALEXANDRIA
- CHARLOTTESVILLE
- FALLS CHURCH
- FREDERICKSBURG
- RICHMOND CITY
- WILLIAMSBURG
- FAIRFAX CITY

If this proposal is enacted, the state share of funding for VPI programs in these localities will be reduced by \$11.6 million in FY 25 and \$11.7 million in FY 26. These localities would then either have to replace this funding with local funding or reduce the number of children participating in VPI.

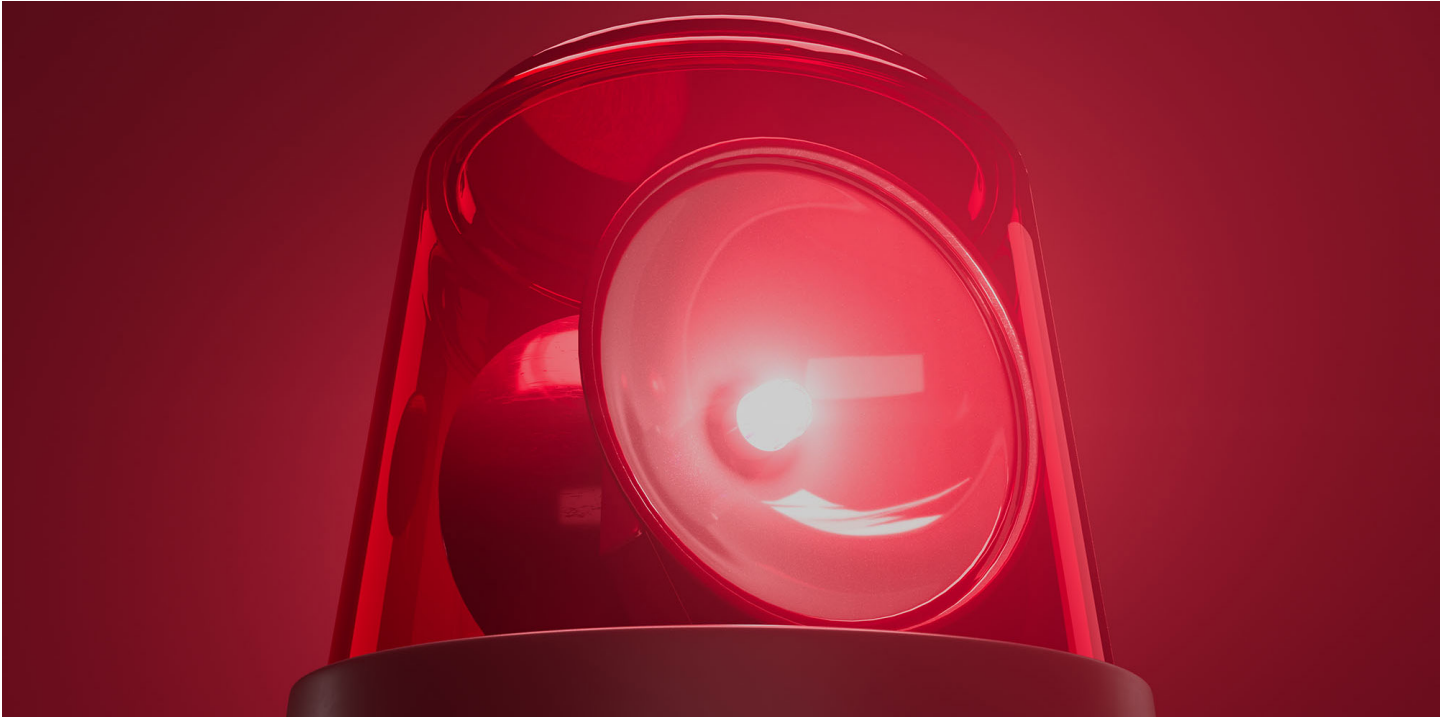
This is part of a larger proposal which directs \$174 million from the general fund in FY 2025 and \$237.8 million from the general fund in FY 2026 to support the Child Care Subsidy Program, of which \$1 million in FY 2025 is to be used to establish and administer early learning and child care accounts hosted on a digital wallet platform. Of this funding, approximately \$53 million in FY 2025 and \$53.7 million in FY 2026 reflect dollars redirected from the Virginia Preschool Initiative and Early Childhood Expansion programs as a result of projected nonparticipation and eliminating the current cap on the Local Composite Index for these programs.

VACo is supportive of the larger [efforts](#) to support early childhood care and education. Dedicating new General Funds or reinvesting funds from unused slots in VPI back into the early childhood care and education field is one matter. However, VACo has concerns about any specific proposals that divert existing state or local funds away from local public schools.

“The standard Superintendent’s memo detailing the impacts of the Governor’s introduced budget on K-12 funding for individual school divisions will be posted [here](#) once it becomes available.”

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

# Governor's Introduced Budget Addresses OEMS Funding Issue



As part of Governor Youngkin's introduced budget, additional state General Funds will be used to address funding shortfalls through the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS). According to the Chair of the State EMS Advisory Board, the Governor has directed the \$8 million surplus that the Virginia Department of Health returned to the General Fund at the end of FY23 to be redistributed to OEMS. This will allow OEMS to cover their remaining Return to Locality (RTL) obligations. Additionally, OEMS will be able to pay the Regional EMS Councils the remaining funds that they are owed.

Additionally, Governor Youngkin has included in his budget bill language that exempts OEMS from making the required transfer of \$12.5 million pass through monies to the General Fund in FY24 and in FY25. These budget provisions will need to be approved by the General Assembly to take effect. Furthermore, the firm of Fitch and Associates will be onsite at OEMS after the first of the year for six months to assist with OEMS operations.

As previously [reported](#), OEMS programs were facing a multimillion-dollar deficit and that several years' worth of past OEMS budgets were created not in-line with available funding. This had the potential to significantly impact OEMS aid to localities and first responders. A workgroup was [tasked](#) by the EMS Advisory Board with prioritizing resumption of payments for the EMS Regional Councils and Return to Locality obligations. The minutes of the workgroup's last meeting can be accessed [here](#).

This is a solid step forward in ensuring that local governments and EMS first responders receive the funding obligated to them from OEMS. VACo will continue to engage and report on this issue as it develops further.

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

# VRS Political Subdivision Valuations Reports with New Contribution Rates To Be Posted

VACo recently received important information from the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) regarding the actuarial valuation reports for all political subdivision employers. As previously [reported](#), these reports are important as they contain the include the retirement contribution rate along with rates for group life insurance and the health insurance credit.

According to VRS:

VRS this month will post online in [myVRS Navigator](#) the 2023 actuarial valuation reports for all political subdivision employers. Employers will no longer receive these reports by email.

## To access your actuarial valuation:

1. Log in to myVRS Navigator.
2. Click on the Reports drop-down menu heading.
3. Scroll to and click on Generated Reports.
4. Type "Valuation" in the report search field to filter the list to include valuation reports for your pension and health insurance credit (if applicable).

The actuarial valuations include the retirement contribution rate along with rates for group life insurance and the health insurance credit, if applicable. The new rates are effective for fiscal years 2025 and 2026, beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2026.

Political subdivision plans contribution rates are calculated based on the assets and liabilities of each individual participating employer.

Employer contributions will vary based on:

- Benefit offerings (enhanced hazardous duty coverage, for example).
- Demographics of the employee group covered.
- Current funded level of the political subdivision's plan.

Overall, the defined benefit rate will increase less than 1% for most political subdivision employers (70%) based on 2023 valuations.

## Important reminder about Hybrid Retirement Plan rate separation:

Beginning July 1, 2024, the board-certified employer contribution rates for the retirement plans will apply only to the defined benefit portion of the benefits. Previously, the board-certified employer rates also included an estimate of the defined contributions for Hybrid Retirement Plan members. Moving forward, contribution rates provided to employers no longer will include an estimate of employers' defined contribution match. Instead, the defined contribution amount will vary based on each member's voluntary contributions election. Employers with hybrid plan members will also continue to make matching defined contribution hybrid plan contributions based on member elections. [See hybrid rate separation.](#)

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

### **Early Childhood**

- Directs \$39 million from the American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Child Care Subsidy Program in FY 2024.
- Directs \$174 million from the general fund in FY 2025 and \$237.8 million from the general fund in FY 2026 to support the Child Care Subsidy Program, of which \$1 million in FY 2025 is to be used to establish and administer early learning and child care accounts hosted on a digital wallet platform. Of this funding, approximately \$53 million in FY 2025 and \$53.7 million in FY 2026 reflect dollars redirected from the Virginia Preschool Initiative and Early Childhood Expansion programs as a result of projected nonparticipation, as well as eliminating the current cap on the Local Composite Index (LCI) for these programs. Current budget language caps the LCI for Virginia Preschool Initiative at 0.5; removing the cap would mean that the local share would increase for localities with LCIs above 0.5.
- Language extends the Superintendent of Public Instruction's authority to alter staff-to-child ratios and group sizes for licensed child day centers and child day centers that participate in the Child Care Subsidy Program flexibility until June 30, 2026.
- Redirects \$26.8 million per year from the Virginia Preschool Initiative and Early Childhood Expansion program to the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation for the Mixed Delivery initiative to support public-private delivery of early learning services for children from birth-age five. Imposes certain additional requirements for local plans, including attendance requirements, parental workforce activity requirements that align with requirements for the Child Care Subsidy Program, and parental copays. A report is due by July 1, 2025, on the efficacy of the initiative and a proposed conclusion to the program and transition of children into other offerings.
- Retains language exempting community providers from teacher licensure requirements when paid within the confines of the Virginia Preschool Initiative's community add-on partnerships, as long as the provider meets the expectations of the statewide measurement and improvement system.
- Provides \$25 million in FY 2025 for an early learning capital incentives fund, which will be administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development in partnership with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Department of Education, with the objective of increasing the supply of quality early learning spaces in childcare and early learning deserts. Local government and public higher education institution grantees will be selected through a competitive process that prioritizes increasing capacity in areas of greatest need, submitting business models that are sustainable without state operating subsidies after the first or second year, repurposing and/or retrofitting underutilized facilities, and engaging business and local employers directly.
- Includes language stipulating that the Governor is authorized to transfer any previously authorized ARPA SLFRF project which has unobligated funds on June 30, 2024, to supplement Child Care Subsidy Program funding.

### **Administration – Elections**

- Provides \$148,991 GF in FY 2025 and \$161,397 GF in FY 2026 to fund a position for voter list maintenance.

### **Administration – Constitutional officers and jails**

- Moves \$9.4 million in projected vacancy savings in FY 2025 to a reserve fund to be used in FY 2026 to reimburse expenses incurred within established budgets for Constitutional officers if vacancy levels are reduced and vacant positions are filled.



- Captures \$15 million per year (in FY 2024, FY 2025, and FY 2026) in per diem payment savings based on inmate population reductions and projected growth in jail populations over the next biennium.
- Directs \$500,000 in FY 2025 from the Commonwealth Opioid Abatement and Remediation Fund to establish jail-based substance use disorder treatment programs in local and regional jails.
- Provides \$159,889 per year to adjust the salaries of Constitutional officers whose localities met a population-based threshold.
- Does not include additional funding to address staffing standards or to restore funding for unfunded or underfunded positions resulting from prior budget reductions.

### **Agriculture and Forestry**

- Reduces deposits to the Farmland Preservation Fund by \$437,500 per year, for a remaining deposit of \$437,500 per year.
- Provides an additional \$2 million in FY 2025 for the Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund.
- Includes \$250,000 in FY 2025 for the Blue Catfish Processing, Flash Freezing, and Infrastructure Grant Program, which continues funding levels from FY 2024 that were included in Chapter 1 (the budget revisions enacted in September 2023).
- Provides \$500,000 in FY 2025 and \$250,000 in FY 2026 for the Dairy Producer Margin Coverage Premium Assistance Fund (this is a reduction from the FY 2024 level of \$700,000).
- Provides \$266,130 per year from the General Fund, along with matching non-general funds, for inspectors at slaughter and meat processing facilities.
- Provides \$2 million in FY 2025 for a competitive grant program for agricultural technology research projects to advance the agricultural industry, assist the development of agricultural products, and improve infrastructure growth, productivity, or efficiency.
- Does not include any additional appropriation to the Forest Sustainability Fund, which was established in 2022 to assist localities that forgo revenue by adopting use value assessment and taxation for real estate devoted to forest use.

### **Commerce and Trade - Broadband**

- Reduces the appropriation for the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative by \$29.7 million in FY 2025 and by \$49.7 million in FY 2026, leaving an appropriation of \$20 million in FY 2025. DPB Director Maul indicated that the large infusion of federal funding for broadband in recent years made additional state appropriations unnecessary at this time.

### **Economic Development/workforce**

- Deposits \$25 million in FY 2025 to the Virginia Business Ready Sites Acquisition Fund (Chapter 1 included \$75 million in FY 2024).
- Deposits \$150 million in FY 2025 and \$50 million in FY 2026 to the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program Fund (Chapter 1 included \$179.5 million in FY 2024).
- Provides \$10 million in FY 2025 for the development of an inland port in the Mount Rogers Planning District (Chapter 1 provided \$10 million in FY 2024).
- Provides \$100 million GF in FY 2025 for the Virginia Biotechnology, Life Sciences, and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Network; requires the Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority to establish a Network Advisory Board to review and recommend approval of investments.
- Deposits \$75 million per year to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund (representing level funding from FY 2024).

- Captures \$28 million in GO Virginia balances in FY 2025.
- Reduces funding for the Enterprise Zone Grant Fund by \$1.5 million per year to reflect declining utilization; eliminates language allowing the installation of solar panels to be considered eligible investments for the purposes of the real property improvement grants under certain circumstances.
- Provides an additional \$4 million GF in FY 2025 for the Virginia Removal or Rehabilitation of Derelict Structures Fund to support industrial site revitalization.
- Provides an additional \$350,000 per year for the Center for Rural Virginia, which would be renamed the Senator Frank Ruff Center for Rural Virginia.
- Provides \$250,000 per year in supplemental funding for the Lenowisco Planning District Commission and the Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission (reduced from \$500,000 in FY 2024); designates the funding for operations of the Coalfield Expressway Authority.
- Deposits \$6 million in FY 2025 to the Virginia Power Innovation Fund (an increase of \$2 million from FY 2024 funding levels).
- Provides an additional \$1.25 million in FY 2025 and \$1.5 million in FY 2026 for the Virginia Office of Education Economics.
- Provides \$2 million in FY 2025 and \$2.25 million in FY 2026 to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership to launch an innovative framework for economic growth.
- Increases funding for the New Economy Workforce Credential Grant Program by approximately \$4 million in FY 2025 and \$5.3 million in FY 2026.
- Provides an additional \$19 million in FY 2025 and \$1 million in FY 2026 to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for the Innovative Internship Program (these funds include funding for internships previously budgeted under the Central Appropriations category, which provided \$10 million in FY 2024). The funding is designed to expand paid or credit-bearing student internship and other work-based learning opportunities in collaboration with Virginia employers.
- Provides \$3.9 million per year to the Virginia Community College System to establish nine regionally focused career placement offices.
- Provides \$15 million in FY 2025 to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership to create a comprehensive, multi-faceted marketing program to raise awareness of in-demand job opportunities and career pathways, promote training and certification programs, encourage college students and military personnel to stay in Virginia, and recruit out-of-state workers to move to Virginia.

### **Human Services – Aging/Adults with Disabilities**

- Reflects an increase in the auxiliary grant rate to \$2079 per month (up from \$2055), beginning January 1, 2024.
- Provides \$246,548 per year to address an increase in adult protective services hotline calls.
- Provides an additional \$37,423 per year in support for Centers for Independent Living (CILs); includes language directing the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services to collect data on the total operating budget of each CIL and how each CIL uses state dollars.

### **Human Services – Children’s Services Act**

- Includes \$36.4 million in the FY 2024 “caboose” budget for the state’s portion of spending for projected growth in services provided through the Children’s Services Act, as well as \$97 million over the biennium for this purpose.

- Provides \$1.2 million per year for the anticipated costs of services provided to children served through kinship care and parental agreements.

### **Human Services – Behavioral Health**

- Proposes a series of investments in the Governor’s Right Help, Right Now behavioral health initiative, including:
  - Funding for an additional 1,720 developmental disability waiver slots in the Medicaid program in each year of the biennium.
  - \$35.6 million over the biennium for additional crisis receiving centers or crisis stabilization units, enhancements to existing sites, and pharmacy improvements.
  - \$20.8 million over the biennium for salary increases for clinical staff and \$15.8 million over the biennium for salary increases for food and environmental services staff at state hospitals.
  - \$10 million in FY 2025 for comprehensive psychiatric emergency programs or similar models of care in emergency departments.
  - \$10 million in additional funding over the biennium for the Virginia Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program; expands eligibility to psychiatric registered nurses; increases maximum award amount for “Tier 1” professionals (child and adolescent psychiatrists; psychiatric nurse practitioners; psychiatric registered nurses; psychiatrists) from \$30,000 to \$50,000 per year. Sets aside \$1 million per year for eligible recipients who are school-based.
  - \$10 million in FY 2025 for one-time costs of establishing additional mobile crisis services in underserved areas.
  - \$9.5 million in additional funding for the alternative transportation and custody programs to expand the programs to serve individuals under involuntary commitment orders. Combines funding for alternative transportation and alternative custody.
  - \$7.2 million per year for the Department of Education to contract with a telehealth provider for mental health care services for students in grades 6-12; local school divisions that participate must develop a process for parents to opt-in to these services.
  - \$3 million per year to support student mental health services at institutions of higher education.
- Funds 20 additional psychiatric residency slots (\$1 million per year in general funds, with matching federal funds).
- Continues funding for the school-based mental health pilot program (included in Chapter 1, the budget revisions enacted in September 2023) at \$15 million per year (up from \$7.5 million in FY 2024 in Chapter 1); earmarks \$500,000 in FY 2025 for a statewide evaluation of school-based mental health services, with a report due June 1, 2025.
- Provides \$575,000 per year to contract with the Virginia Health Care Foundation to support the costs of supervisory hours needed for licensure for individuals seeking advanced degrees in social work or counseling.
- Provides \$595,876 in FY 2025 and \$645,876 in FY 2026 for mental health workforce initiatives, including an evaluation of the licensing process, funding a workforce training director, and providing scholarships for behavioral health technicians.
- Provides \$1 million per year to establish and maintain a credentialing database for youth mental health services; the database is to include a public-facing online registry to identify and verify providers and practices and include information to assist local school divisions in receiving reimbursement for services provided in school-based settings.

- Provides \$2.6 million per year for the expansion of de-escalation training by the Virginia Crisis Intervention Team Coalition.
- Provides \$300,000 in FY 2025 to update training modules for preadmission screening clinicians.
- Provides \$3.6 million in FY 2025 and \$4.2 million in FY 2026 for crisis co-responder programs to support Marcus Alert implementation.
- Broadens the use of funds previously provided for dementia behavioral specialists to be used for geriatric behavioral specialists; also includes provisions in the caboose and biennium budgets to broaden language associated with pilot programs for individuals with dementia who may otherwise be admitted to a state facility to allow this funding to be used for geriatric individuals.
- Broadens language providing funding for certain substance use disorder treatment regimens that was previously limited to drug courts to apply to specialty dockets.
- From the previously appropriated \$7.5 million per year for alternative inpatient options or increased community capacity for patients on the Extraordinary Barriers to Discharge List, allows \$5 million to be used for forensic patients who are admitted to, or at risk of admission to, state hospitals; allows \$1.5 million of the \$7.5 million to support the discharge of private hospital patients at risk of transfer to state hospitals.
- Dedicates \$24.3 million in bond proceeds for safety renovations at Eastern State Hospital and provides \$35 million from the general fund for various renovations at state hospitals.
- Provides \$741,989 in FY 2025 and \$711,989 in FY 2026 for partnerships between academic institutions and state hospitals to serve as clinical training sites.
- Provides \$715,301 in FY 2025 for workforce development at state hospitals, and \$70,514 in FY 2025 for the same purpose at the state training centers and \$20,813 in FY 2025 at the Virginia Center for Behavioral Rehabilitation.
- Provides an additional \$2.6 million for Part C Early Intervention.
- Provides \$3.4 million in FY 2025 and \$3.3 million in FY 2026 for peer wellness stay programs, which are voluntary, short term, overnight, peer run, recovery supports housing for individuals in distress that are sometimes referred to as “hospital diversion programs” and serve as an alternative to inpatient hospitalization.
- Provides \$750,000 GF in FY 2025 and \$1.5 million GF in FY 2026 for specialty dockets.

### **Human Services – Health**

- Provides \$4 million per year from the General Fund for the Earn to Learn nursing program (this program was supported with ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars in Chapter 1).
- Provides an additional \$936,000 per year for the Nursing Scholarships and Loan Repayment Program.
- Includes \$6.4 million per year to continue actions in Chapter 1 to appropriate state matching funds for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

### **Human Services – Medicaid**

- Modifies appropriation to the Virginia Health Care Fund (which is used as part of the state match for Medicaid) to reflect an additional \$508.9 million needed from the General Fund to offset declines in non-general fund sources. Funds the Medicaid forecast (\$714 million over the biennium).
- Authorizes the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to modify Medicaid behavioral health services such that legacy services for youth are replaced with the implementation of tiered community-based services for youth and families appropriate for delivery in homes and



schools and legacy services for adults are replaced with a comprehensive array of psychiatric rehabilitative services for adults with serious mental illness. All new and modified services are to be evidence-based and trauma-informed. New services are to be implemented by June 30, 2026.

- Provides \$516,602 in FY 2025 and \$676,502 from the General Fund in FY 2026 (with associated federal funding) to authorize and fund procurement of the Cardinal Care managed care contract.
- Authorizes DMAS to seek federal authorization to implement telehealth service delivery options for certain services offered through Developmental Disability waivers.
- Authorizes DMAS to seek federal authorization to make certain administrative changes to improve access to peer recovery services.

### **Human Services – Social Services**

- Provides \$2.9 million in FY 2025 and \$2.5 million in FY 2026 from the General Fund (with matching non-general fund amounts) for administration of the new summer Electronic Benefits Transfer program for children.
- Funds foster care and adoption cost of living adjustments (\$3.5 million GF per year, with matching non-general funds).
- Provides \$72,215 from the General Fund in FY 2025 and \$104,660 in non-general funds in FY 2025 for background checks for employees of local departments of social services and contractors and employment candidates so that the Department can use the federal Income Eligibility Verification System to determine TANF eligibility.
- Provides \$8.1 million GF in FY 2025 and \$7.8 million GF in FY 2026 to sustain relative maintenance payments at current rates, fund kinship and alternative living supports, and provide \$250 bonus payments to local departments of social services for certain kinship foster care placements.
- Provides \$1.5 million in FY 2025 and \$2.5 million in FY 2026 to develop and implement educational programming, coaching, and support services for fathers, and to create a public awareness campaign to promote responsible and involved fatherhood.
- Makes several adjustments to reflect concerns about structural balance in the state's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant:
  - Replaces \$4 million in TANF dollars with a like amount from the general fund for long-acting reversible contraceptives in FY 2026.
  - Replaces \$2.4 million per year in TANF dollars for Families Forward with a like amount from the general fund.
  - Replaces \$1 million per year in TANF dollars for Resource Mothers with a like amount from the general fund.
  - Eliminates funding in FY 2026 for the Two-Generation/Whole Family pilot project provided through Community Action Agencies (\$1.1 million).
  - Replaces \$600,000 per year in TANF support for Early Impact Virginia with a like amount of General Fund support.
  - Replaces \$9 million from TANF for Community Employment and Training programs with a like amount of General Fund support in FY 2026.
  - In the caboose and biennium budgets, removes TANF support for Family Restoration Services in Hampton (\$125,000), Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless (\$250,000), and Menchville House (\$125,000).

## **Human Services – Substance Use Disorder**

- Allocates \$5.5 million per year from the Commonwealth Opioid Abatement and Remediation Fund to the Department of Health for the purchase and distribution of opioid reversal agents and test kits and for tracking software.
- Allocates \$400,000 in FY 2025 from the Commonwealth Opioid Abatement and Remediation Fund to the Department of Health for a one-year demonstration project for wastewater surveillance for fentanyl and norfentanyl in up to three geographically diverse localities.
- Allocates \$4 million per year from the Commonwealth Opioid Abatement and Remediation Fund to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services for a marketing campaign and classroom-based programmatic efforts to address the opioid crisis.
- Allocates \$1 million per year from the Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems Fund (from settlement related to claims regarding marketing of these products toward youth) to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to support a youth vaping prevention campaign.
- Provides \$1.1 million in FY 2025 and \$210,000 in FY 2026 for high-intensity inpatient services for youth and adolescents with serious mental illness or substance use disorder who may otherwise require inpatient hospitalization.
- Provides \$400,000 in FY 2026 for clinical support to the Chesterfield Recovery Academy.

## **Labor**

- Transfers funding and positions to establish the new Department of Workforce Development and Advancement, which was created in legislation enacted in 2023.
- Provides \$2 million per year to establish a registered apprenticeship grant program to increase the number of apprentices in the Commonwealth; grants are capped at \$2000 per apprentice and will be disbursed after an apprentice has been part of an employer's apprentice program for a minimum of six months.
- Provides \$1 million in FY 2025 to launch the Healthcare Workforce Training System program to connect job seekers in southeastern Virginia to healthcare skills training and supportive services.
- Authorizes a line of credit for the Virginia Employment Commission for operational costs in times of significant increases in unemployment.

## **Natural and Historic Resources**

- Includes language providing an exception to the requirement to reserve 15 percent of any amounts appropriated to the Water Quality Improvement Fund from General Fund revenue surpluses if the cash balance in the reserve is at or above \$100 million.
- Deposits \$138.1 million in FY 2025 into the Water Quality Improvement Fund for agricultural best management practices and nonpoint source pollution programs.
- Deposits \$100 million in FY 2025 into the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund.
- Deposits \$25 million in FY 2025 into the Resilient Virginia Revolving Loan Fund.
- Increases appropriation to the Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund by \$5 million in FY 2025.
- Provides \$4.4 million in FY 2025 and \$4.1 million in FY 2026 for Chesapeake Bay monitoring and assessment.
- Provides \$400,000 per year for contracted technical evaluation modeling services for groundwater permit issuance and renewal.
- Provides \$675,000 per year for the air permitting program.

- Provides \$50 million in FY 2025 for the City of Richmond’s Combined Sewer Overflow project.
- Provides \$35 million in FY 2025 for the City of Bristol’s landfill remediation, contingent on the execution of a memorandum of understanding between the locality and the Department of Environmental Quality.
- Provides \$73.9 million in FY 2025 to the City of Norfolk for its Coastal Storm Risk Management Project; and authorizes a treasury loan of \$21 million, contingent upon the City applying casino revenues toward the project.
- Provides \$35 million in FY 2025 to establish a competitive grant program to support improvements at significant historic sites in Virginia in anticipation of the country’s Semiquincentennial celebration.
- Includes \$1 million in FY 2025 for the Virginia Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Historic Preservation Fund; authorizes use of funds for the preservation of historic sites (not only archaeological sites).
- Includes language in the caboose allowing all municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) localities to be eligible for \$5 million in funding previously appropriated from the Water Quality Improvement Fund to the Department of Environmental Quality.

### **Public Safety and Courts**

- Provides \$500,000 per year for Sussex County to offset costs of providing emergency medical transport for inmates at Sussex State Prison.
- Contributes \$32,401 for the state’s share of costs for security enhancements at the Franklin County Jail.
- Provides an additional \$2.4 million in FY 2025 and \$4.8 million in FY 2026 from the general fund for the Virginia Crime Victim-Witness Fund Victim-Witness Grant program to account for declines in federal grant awards and special fund revenues.
- Provides an additional \$3.5 million in FY 2026 from the general fund for grants to local sexual assault crisis centers and domestic violence programs, to offset declines in federal grant awards.
- Provides \$18 million in FY 2025 as a one-time appropriation to support efforts to fill persistent vacancies in law enforcement agencies. Eligible uses include sign-on bonuses and relocation expenses. At least \$3 million of this funding is to be used to support wellness and mental health initiatives for law enforcement personnel in state and local law enforcement agencies.
- Provides an additional \$2 million in FY 2025 for the Department of Criminal Justice Services to make competitive grants to combat hate crimes.
- Provides an additional \$200,000 per year for the witness protection program.
- Funds aid to localities with police departments (“HB 599”) at \$219.7 million per year; these amounts reflect FY 2024 funding levels once the additional \$2.1 million provided in one-time assistance in Chapter 1 is removed.

### **Transportation**

- Includes language to allow the use of GARVEE bonds for the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program.
- Provides \$350,000 in nongeneral funds in FY 2025 to study airport infrastructure needs and the implementation of emerging technologies.
- Includes language allowing total Virginia operating assistance to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for FY 2025 to increase from the total operating assistance provided the previous year by an amount determined to be appropriate by the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, subject to WMATA meeting certain requirements

for preparation of a corrective action plan. Does not include additional state support for WMATA to address expected budget shortfalls.

- Directs the Commonwealth Transportation Board to provide at least \$200 million to the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund (TPOF) from Commonwealth Transportation Fund revenues in the most recent Six-Year Financial Plan.
- Provides \$20 million from the general fund for TPOF in FY 2025.
- Provides \$70 million from the general fund in FY 2025 to support the I-81 Northbound Lane Widening Project in the Salem District.

### **Reserves**

- Directs the State Comptroller to transfer amounts in excess of the statutory cap from the Revenue Reserve Fund to the general fund (the cap had been temporarily overridden by budget language); amounts to be transferred are \$712 million in FY 2025 and \$92 million in FY 2026.

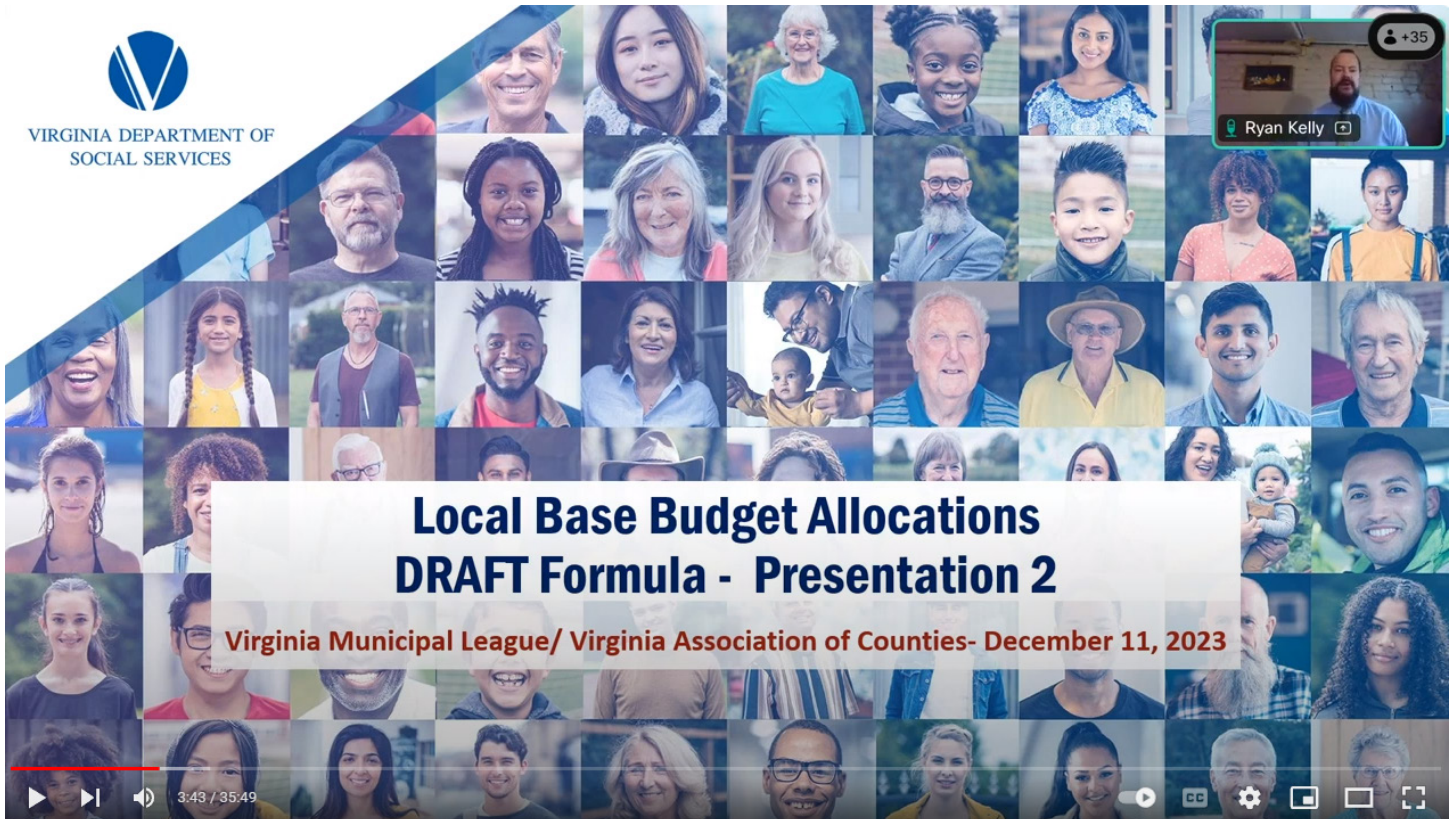
### **Tax policy changes**

- Extends provisions of 2019 legislation increasing Education Improvement Scholarship amounts for certain students and broadening the definition of disability to January 1, 2028 (the 2019 legislation has a sunset date of January 1, 2024). Increases the cap on Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits from \$25 to \$30 million for FY 2025 and beyond.
- Reduces income tax rates in each bracket, effective January 1, 2025 (from 2 percent to 1.75 percent; from 3 percent to 2.65 percent; from 5 percent to 4.4 percent; and from 5.75 percent to 5.1 percent).
- Increases the state sales tax rate from 4.3 to 5.2 percent, directs revenues derived from the increase to the General Fund.
- Captures certain services and digital personal property in the sales tax base, effective January 1, 2025. Earmarks the additional sales tax revenue that would be generated for transportation purposes from this base-broadening action for the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund and the I-81 Corridor Improvement Fund. Eliminates the prohibition on the application of the Communications Sales and Use Tax to digital products. Directs the Department of Taxation to develop guidelines to implement this expansion of the sales tax base.
- Increases the Earned Income Tax Credit to 25 percent of the federal amount.

### **Other items**

- Provides \$20 million in FY 2025 to support the American Revolution 250 Commission.
- In the caboose, creates the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority, to consist of six members appointed by the Governor and three appointed by the City of Alexandria; the Authority will be responsible for construction, operational, and financial viability of the facilities that are part of the planned campus (including a sports arena, performance venue, and hotel developments, among others), servicing the bonds issued by the Authority, and ensuring compliance with all terms and conditions of contracts, memoranda of understanding, and other agreements entered into regarding the campus.
- Provides \$500,000 in FY 2025 for the Secretary of Finance to evaluate potential economic development incentives to attract sports teams to the state.
- Deposits \$150 million in FY 2025 into the Virginia Technology Infrastructure Fund to be used to support the upgrade, replacement, and modernization of critical technology systems across state agencies.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

## VDSS Webinar on Proposed Alternative Allocation for State Administrative Funding (Part Two)

At the direction of the State Board of Social Services, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) has been developing a proposed alternative allocation method for state administrative funding to local departments of social services for staff and operations costs that would reflect local department caseloads, poverty, and local ability to pay. Ryan Kelly, Assistant Deputy Commissioner of Policy and Administration at VDSS, joined VACo and VML on December 11 for the second part of a two-part series of webinars to discuss the proposal and solicit initial feedback on the Department's recommendations.

### [VDSS PRESENTATION PART 2.](#)

[Click here to watch the Part 1](#) of the VDSS Webinar on Proposed Alternative Allocation for State Administrative Funding



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH**

**READY, SET, GO: IT'S TIME FOR THE 2024  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

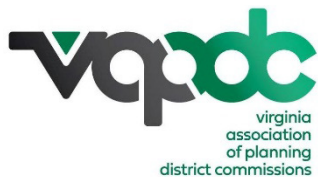
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH**

**HOUSING AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGY**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST**

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# VAPDC Winter Series 2024



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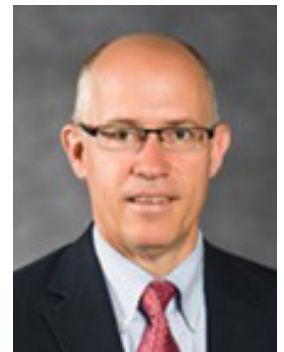
### JANUARY 5, 2024

#### *Ready, Set, Go: It's Time for the 2024 General Assembly*

A new-look General Assembly will convene in early January with a new legislative building, many new lawmakers and new issues for 2024. This session will dig into the legislative session's nuts and bolts, highlight the governor's budget proposal and anticipated legislative issues, and take a look at the politics of it all.

Presenter: **David Blount**

**Executive Director** | Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions  
**Director of Legislative Services** | Thomas Jefferson PDC



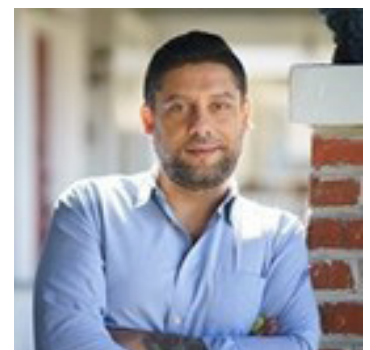
### FEBRUARY 9, 2024

#### *Housing as an Economic Development Strategy*

Virginia Housing recently released a study that explores linkages between housing and economic development. It identifies housing as an increasingly central factor in decisions that businesses make about relocation, expansion, and formation. Join us for an overview of the findings and recommendations for integrating housing and economic development strategies.

Presenter: **Fabrizio Fasulo**

**Director of Policy and Planning** | Virginia Housing



## National Association of Counties Leadership Development: Learn from the best!

**We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the September NACo Leadership Academy graduates from Virginia.** They join over 10,000 graduates and current participants from across the country benefitting from the 12-week online program enabling existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potential.

Angel Mateo, Security Analyst, Spotsylvania County  
Art Johnne, Data Developer, Chesterfield County  
Benjamin Goo, Security Administrator, Chesterfield County  
Brea Hopkins, Director of Planning & GIS Services, Montgomery County  
Brian Hamilton, Economic Development Director, Montgomery County  
Jill Parker, Sr. Clinical Services CM/Therapist III, Prince William County  
Kristin Alexander, Building Code Enforcement Branch Chief/Manager, Prince William County  
Laura Fallon, Assistant Real Estate Assessments Manager, Prince William County  
Maureen Anderson, Probation/Pretrial Manager, Prince William County  
Nathan Zilke, First Lieutenant, Loudoun County  
Renee Wentworth, Security Engineer, Chesterfield County  
Thomas Gilligan, Captain, Loudoun County  
Travis Wolfe, IT Manager, King William County

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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](mailto:ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org) | 276-759-8064



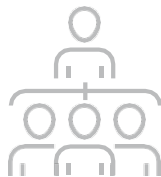
Counties affect the lives of residents every day. When our frontline staff are empowered as leaders, we deliver services more effectively. **The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is a resource that connects your staff with practical leadership training.** HPLA uses an innovative, interactive online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

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**ORGANIZE:**

Plan, lead and execute organizational change more effectively and consistently



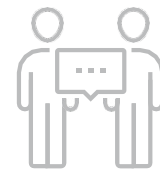
**COLLABORATE:**

Establish alignment and strong partnerships through building stronger relationships



**DELIVER:**

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



**COMMUNICATE:**

Create clarity, confidence, and community

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

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## OneDigital is thrilled to be one of VACo's newest Premier Partners.

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**Sarah Anne Struckmann**  
**Business Development Executive**  
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# SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY PHOTO SPEED ENFORCEMENT

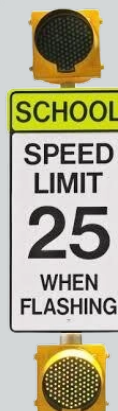


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Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email for credit card receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form to:** Virginia Association of Counties  
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300  
Richmond, VA 23219-3627

**Or FAX credit card purchases to 804.788.0083**

Questions? Call 804.788.6652.



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. **The cost is \$100 per ad for non-VACo members.** VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Valerie.Russell](mailto:Valerie.Russell@vacounty.org).

[PLANNER I-ZONING PERMITS](#) | Loudoun County | Posted January 4

[DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS](#) | City of Newport News | Posted January 4

[DIRECTOR OF PLANNING](#) | Fluvanna County | Posted January 4

[CHIEF OF POLICE](#) | Town of Tappahannock | Posted January 4

[COUNTY ENGINEER](#) | Augusta County | Posted January 3

[DEPUTY REGISTRAR](#) | Montgomery County | Posted January 3

[ELECTRICAL CODE INSPECTOR I OR II \(RESIDENTIAL COMBINATION INSPECTOR\)](#) | City of Alexandria | Posted January 3

[FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS CODE INSPECTOR \(I, II, OR III\)](#) | City of Alexandria | Posted January 3

[CHILD ADOLESCENT SERVICES CLINICIAN-BFOQ/BILINGUAL](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted January 2

[INTELLECTUAL/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CASE MANAGER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted January 2

[CRISIS CLINICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted January 2

[PERMIT TECHNICIAN I](#) | Loudoun County | Posted January 2

[PRETREATMENT OPERATIONS MANAGER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 29

[CARE TEAM NURSE CASE MANAGER](#) | James City County | Posted December 27

[CUSTOMER SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE \(WILLIAMSBURG AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY\)](#) | James City County | Posted December 27

[ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR](#) | James City County | James City County | Posted December 27

[ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL SERVICES](#) | James City County | Posted December 27

[BENEFIT PROGRAM SPECIALIST I](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 27

[EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT \(PT\) \(EVENING HOURS\) MH](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 22

[CLINICAL SUPERVISOR-ACT](#) | Hanover County | Posted December 22

[CLINICAL SUPERVISOR-SAME DAY ACCESS](#) | Hanover County | Posted December 22

[SUPPORT COORDINATOR-DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES](#) | Hanover County | Posted December 22

[DEPUTY COURT CLERK I](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 21

[ENGINEER I/II/III \(WASTEWATER/WATER\)](#) | James City Service Authority | Posted December 21

[REAL ESTATE APPRAISER I](#) | Prince George County | Posted December 21

[APPARATUS TECHNICIAN](#) | Prince George County | Posted December 21

[PLANNER](#) | Westmoreland County | Posted December 21

[SENIOR ENGINEER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 20

[DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT](#) | City of Staunton | Posted December 20

[VICTIM-WITNESS ADVOCATE](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 20

[TAX TECHNICIAN I](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 20

[DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY](#) | City of Chesapeake | Posted December 20

[DEPUTY PLANNING DIRECTOR](#) | Prince William County | Posted December 20

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES I](#) | King George County | Posted December 19

[STAFF AUDITOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-FACILITIES & HOUSING SPECIALIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[AUTOMATION ANALYST PT](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[LIBRARY ASSISTANT BRANCH MANAGER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[SENIOR CLINICIAN - ADULT DRUG COURT](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[REGISTERED NURSE/PT \(PINE FOREST\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT PT](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[SENIOR AUDITOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[EMERGENCY SERVICES SUPERVISOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE PT \(RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE \(HUNTER CHASE\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE FT \(IN-HOME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR \(NORTH ARCH\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 18

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted December 18

[ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR](#) | Loudoun County | Posted December 15

[TAX REVENUE SPECIALIST](#) | Hanover County | Posted December 14

[MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR](#) | Isle of Wight County | Posted December 14

[RECREATION SPECIALIST](#) | Amherst County | Posted December 14

[ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 14

[SENIOR ACCOUNTANT – FINANCIAL REPORTING](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 14

[TRAINING SPECIALIST – TRANSPORTATION PT](#) | Hanover County | Posted December 13

[FINANCIAL TECHNICIAN – HUMAN SERVICES](#) | Hanover County | Posted December 13

[SR. PROGRAM COMPLIANCE OFFICER](#) | Virginia Housing | Posted December 13

[NURSE](#) | Culpeper County | Posted December 13

[DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS](#) | Shenandoah County | Posted December 13

[IT PROGRAM MANAGER](#) | Arlington County | Posted December 13

[TAX TECHNICIAN II](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 13

[TAX TECHNICIAN I](#) | Montgomery County | Posted December 13

[DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY](#) | Franklin County | Posted December 13

[HVAC MECHANIC](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[RADIO INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[CONSUMER SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR \(IN-HOME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR \(EASTMAN GROUP HOME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[REGISTERED NURSE \(FULL TIME\) \(MHSS\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[SENIOR RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR \(PINE FOREST\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE \(GALLOWAY PLACE ICF\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[CLINICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[SENIOR CLINICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[FAMILY SUPPORT SPECIALIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 11

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted December 11

[SENIOR CLINICIAN – CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted December 8

[WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR \(FT\)](#) | Greene County | Posted December 8

[COMMERCIAL PLANS REVIEWER](#) | Loudoun County | Posted December 8

[DIRECTOR OF FINANCE](#) | King William County | Posted December 7

[ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT- PLANNING & ZONING](#) | Isle of Wight County | Posted December 7

[TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR](#) | Isle of Wight County | Posted December 7

[ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT](#) | Campbell County | Posted December 7

[PURCHASING AGENT/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANAGER](#) | Campbell County | Posted December 7

[BUDGET MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST](#) | James City County | Posted December 7

[PROBATION OFFICER I/II](#) | James City County | Posted December 7

[CLINICAL ASSISTANT](#) | James City County | Posted December 7

[REENTRY SPECIALIST](#) | James City County | Posted December 7



## VALUE OF VACo



### ADVOCACY

VACo's lobbying efforts have helped stem the tide of unfunded mandates and have saved Counties millions of dollars every year.



### EDUCATION

Our educational programs offer County leaders and staff opportunities to become more effective in their communities.



### MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Some of VACo's best moments are when members convene and work to improve communities all over the Commonwealth.



### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

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

## VACo LEADERSHIP



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- Director of Programs and Development** | Karie Walker

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

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