



Agenda
May 26, 2022

6:00 p.m.— Pulaski County Innovation Center, Fairlawn, VA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Approval of Minutes for April
 - B. [Approval of Treasurer’s Report for April](#)
- III. **COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**
 - A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)
 - None
 - B. Regular Project Review
 - None
 - C. Environmental Project Review
 - 1. [Radford University Acquisition of Property for Campus Expansion](#)
- IV. **PUBLIC ADDRESS**
- V. **CHAIR’S REPORT**
- VI. **[EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT](#)**
- VII. **REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**
- VIII. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - None
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. [Calfee Community & Cultural Center Overview](#)
 - Presentation: Jill Williams, Consultant and Acting Executive Director
 - Commission Discussion
 - B. [Regional Economic Strategy \(RES\) FY22 Update](#)
 - Commission Discussion
 - C. [NRVRC Revolving Loan Fund – New Committee Members Appointment](#)
 - Commission Action
 - D. [Regional Commission Awards – Review Criteria and Process](#)
 - Commission Discussion
 - E. FY23 Nominating Committee Report – Slate to be presented
 - Commission Action
 - F. Next Commission Meeting: June 23rd 6:00pm

All meeting materials posted on the Commission website www.nrvrc.org

The New River Valley Regional Commission provides area wide planning for the physical, social, and economic elements of the district; encourages and assists local governments in planning for their future; provides a means of coordinating federal, state, and local efforts to resolve area problems; provides a forum for review of mutual concerns; and implements services upon request of member local governments.



6580 Valley Center Drive | Suite 124 | Radford, VA 24141 | 540-639-9313

NRVRC.ORG

MEMORANDUM

To: NRVRC Board Members
From: Jessica Barrett, Finance Director
Date: May 17, 2022
Re: April 2022 Financial Statements

The April 2022 Agencywide Revenue and Expenditure Report and Balance Sheet are enclosed for your review. Financial reports are reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to inclusion in the meeting packet.

The Agencywide Revenue and Expense report compares actual year to date receipts and expenses to the FY21-22 budget adopted by the Commission at the June 24, 2021 meeting. The financial operations of the agency are somewhat fluid and projects, added and modified throughout the year, along with the high volume of Workforce program activities, impact the adopted budget. To provide clarity, Commission and Workforce Development Board activities are separated on the agencywide report.

As of month-end April 2022 (83.33% of the fiscal year), Commission year to date revenues are 81.43% and expenses are 81.66% of adopted budget. The two largest budget expense lines, Salary and Fringe, are slightly above budget at 86.08% and 93.74%, respectively.

Looking at the balance sheet, Accounts Receivable is \$778,710. Of this total, Workforce receivables are \$341,337 (44%) and current. The Executive Committee reviews all aged receivables over 60 days and no receivables are deemed uncollectible.

Counties

Floyd | Giles
Montgomery | Pulaski

City

Radford

Towns

Blacksburg | Christiansburg
Floyd | Narrows | Pearisburg
Pembroke | Pulaski | Rich Creek

Higher Education

Virginia Tech | Radford University
New River Community College

New River Valley Regional Commission

Balance Sheet

4/30/2022

<u>Assets:</u>		<u>Prior Month</u>	<u>Current Month</u>
Operating Account		122,068	186,967
Certificate of Deposit		108,586	108,586
Accounts Receivable		861,152	778,710
Prepaid Item		2,201	1,467
Loans Receivable - Revolving Loan Fund		28,999	28,361
Restricted Cash - Revolving Loan Fund		74,772	75,472
	Total Assets:	<u>1,197,779</u>	<u>1,179,563</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>			
Accounts Payable		104,496	122,462
Accrued Annual Leave		87,809	87,809
Accrued Unemployment		27,864	27,932
Funds Held for Others		12,950	0
Unearned Revenue		6,407	6,407
Expense Reimbursement		254	922
	Total Liabilities:	<u>239,780</u>	<u>245,531</u>
<u>Projects:</u>			
(Equity Accounts)	Net Projects	(49,118)	(90,284)
	Current Year Unrestricted	92,535	112,228
	Unrestricted Net Assets	801,987	801,987
	Restricted Net Assets - Revolving Loan Fund	101,507	101,507
	Total Projects (Equity)	<u>946,910</u>	<u>925,438</u>
	Total Liabilities and Projects	<u>1,186,690</u>	<u>1,170,969</u>
	Net Difference to be Reconciled	<u>11,089</u>	<u>8,594</u>
	Total Adjustments to Post*	11,089	8,594
	Unreconciled Balance (after adjustment)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

*YTD adjustment to Accrued Leave. Final adjustment will be posted to general ledger at fiscal year end closeout.

**New River Valley Regional Commission
Revenue and Expenditures - April 2022**

FY21-22 Budget		(83.33% of FY)			
Adopted 6/24/2021	April 2022	YTD	Under/Over	% Budget	
NRVRC Anticipated Revenues					
ARC	68,666	21,926	78,184	(9,518)	113.86%
ARC - New River Water Trail Expansion	20,340	0	21,283	(943)	104.64%
Local Assessment	236,249	0	236,249	0	100.00%
DHCD - Administrative Grant	89,971	22,493	89,971	0	100.00%
DRPT RIDE Solutions NRV	63,570	0	51,332	12,239	80.75%
EDA	70,000	0	52,500	17,500	75.00%
EDA COVID19 CARES Act	202,500	43,128	183,214	19,286	90.48%
GO Virginia	125,000	0	116,135	8,865	92.91%
Workforce Fiscal Agent	70,000	15,000	70,000	0	100.00%
Workforce Pathways Fiscal Agent	25,000	0	0	25,000	0.00%
Workforce RSVP Fiscal Agent	25,000	0	25,000	0	100.00%
Workforce Power Fiscal Agent	25,000	0	25,000	0	100.00%
Workforce YouthBuild Fiscal Agent	0	0	18,750	(18,750)	0.00%
VDOT	58,000	0	54,835	3,165	94.54%
VDOT - Rocky Knob Project	70,000	0	0	70,000	0.00%
Floyd County	88,371	0	26,394	61,976	29.87%
Floyd Town	0	0	4,267	(4,267)	0.00%
Floyd Co EDA	0	0	92	(92)	0.00%
Giles County	20,960	0	4,965	15,995	23.69%
Narrows Town	16,513	8,500	15,686	827	94.99%
Rich Creek Town	0	7,000	7,000	(7,000)	0.00%
Montgomery County	41,650	0	33,916	7,734	81.43%
Blacksburg Town	14,000	1,167	11,667	2,333	83.33%
Christiansburg Town	15,000	0	0	15,000	0.00%
Pulaski County	5,000	1,193	8,436	(3,436)	168.72%
Pulaski Town	11,923	0	8,863	3,060	74.34%
Radford City	30,000	17,624	45,888	(15,888)	152.96%
Miscellaneous Income	0	120	2,628	(2,628)	0.00%
Virginia's First RIFA	13,000	3,583	18,204	(5,204)	140.03%
NRV MPO	30,000	0	23,437	6,563	78.12%
Pembroke	0	0	7,000	(7,000)	0.00%
CDBG COVID19	338,000	0	201,523	136,477	59.62%
Dept of Environmental Quality	11,580	0	10,281	1,299	88.78%
VDEM	19,465	0	0	19,465	0.00%
Virginia Outdoors Foundation	12,500	0	49,478	(36,978)	395.82%
VHDA	50,000	0	20,000	30,000	40.00%
Southwest Virginia SWMA	2,000	3,500	7,000	(5,000)	350.00%
Virginia Recycling Association	14,000	3,500	14,000	0	100.00%
Calfee Community Center	1,200	0	2,529	(1,329)	210.77%
New River Health District	5,000	0	(384)	5,384	-7.68%
Friends of SWVA	19,000	0	5,458	13,542	28.72%
Taylor Hollow Construction	7,500	0	7,500	0	100.00%
VOF SWVA Natives Campaign Project Match	0	0	3,544	(3,544)	0.00%
Revolving Loan - Interest	0	61	2,496	(2,496)	0.00%
Local Match (unprogrammed ARC)	7,500	0	0	7,500	0.00%
Direct Charge Reimbursement	0	0	1,946	(1,946)	0.00%
Sub Total Revenues	1,923,458	148,794	1,566,267	357,191	81.43%
Expenses					
Salaries	1,152,949	95,830	992,420	160,529	86.08%
Fringe Benefits	282,918	26,981	265,202	17,716	93.74%
Travel	34,650	502	18,843	15,807	54.38%
Office Space	76,175	5,727	66,188	9,987	86.89%
Communications	19,911	1,405	24,392	(4,481)	122.51%
Office Supplies	65,781	1,237	46,901	18,880	71.30%
Postage	2,025	19	1,152	873	56.90%
Printing	5,100	160	5,420	(320)	106.27%
Copier Usage/Maintenance	2,000	103	913	1,087	45.63%
Outreach/Media Adv	2,600	1,325	7,341	(4,714)	282.35%
Equipment Rent/Copier	4,219	223	2,457	1,762	58.24%
Fleet Vehicles	38,024	97	1,296	36,728	3.41%
Dues/Publications	17,384	0	17,929	(545)	103.14%
Training/Staff Development	14,115	2,545	9,874	4,241	69.95%
Insurance	4,682	322	3,439	1,243	73.45%
Meeting Costs	10,950	148	12,428	(1,478)	113.49%
Contractual Services	167,294	33,306	80,446	86,848	48.09%
Professional Services Audit/Legal	4,540	189	9,764	(5,224)	215.07%
Miscellaneous/Fees	4,700	148	3,973	727	84.52%
Reimbursed Expenses	0	0	234	(234)	0.00%
Unassigned Expenses	13,441	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total Expenses	1,923,458	170,266	1,570,611	339,406	81.66%
NRVRC Balance	0	(21,472)	(4,344)		

New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board
Revenue and Expenditures - April 2022

(83.33% of FY)

NR/MR WDB Anticipated Revenues		April 2022	YTD	Under/Over	% Budget
Workforce Development Area	3,580,889	164,600	1,296,879	2,284,010	36.22%
Sub Total Revenues	3,580,889	164,600	1,296,879	2,284,010	
Expenses					
Salaries	475,083	49,758	465,179	9,904	97.92%
Fringe Benefits	142,525	13,274	119,175	23,350	83.62%
Travel	20,000	3,555	16,742	3,258	83.71%
Office Space	36,000	2,120	34,521	1,479	95.89%
Communications	12,000	868	15,455	(3,455)	128.79%
Office Supplies	26,000	883	35,034	(9,034)	134.75%
Postage	250	0	51	199	20.51%
Printing	1,000	0	621	379	62.07%
Outreach/Media Adv	44,800	3,428	15,355	29,445	34.27%
Equipment Rent/Copier	1,700	0	862	838	50.71%
Dues/Publications	4,700	0	2,437	2,263	51.85%
Training/Staff Development	7,000	2,100	6,939	61	99.12%
Insurance	3,000	0	1,793	1,207	59.77%
Meeting Costs	5,000	2,004	9,966	(4,966)	199.31%
Contractual Services	2,700,725	86,611	560,080	2,140,645	20.74%
Professional Services Audit/Legal	10,200	0	8,040	2,160	78.82%
Miscellaneous/Fees	90,906	0	931	89,975	4.07%
Workforce Grants Admin	0	0	3,700	(3,700)	0.00%
Sub Total Expenses	3,580,889	164,600	1,296,879	2,284,010	36.22%
NR/MR WDB Balance	0	0	0		

Total Agency R&E		April 2022	YTD	
Anticipated Revenue	5,504,347	313,394	2,863,146	52.02%
Anticipated Expense	5,504,347	334,866	2,867,490	52.10%
Balance	0	(21,472)	(4,344)	



6580 Valley Center Drive | Suite 124 | Radford, VA 24141 | 540-639-9313

NRVRC.ORG

COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Commission Board Members

FROM: Kevin R. Byrd, Executive Director

AGENDA ITEM: III. Intergovernmental Review Process, C. Environmental Project Review, Item #1

CIRP Review

May 17, 2022

PROJECT: Radford University Acquisition of Property for Campus Expansion
DEQ #22-071S

SUBMITTED BY: DEQ

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Department of Environmental Quality is requesting comments on an environmental impact report.

PROJECT SENT FOR REVIEW TO: Commission Board Members

Strengthening the Region through Collaboration

Counties

Floyd | Giles
Montgomery | Pulaski
City
Radford

Towns

Blacksburg | Christiansburg
Floyd | Narrows | Pearisburg
Pembroke | Pulaski
Rich Creek

Higher Education

Virginia Tech
Radford University
New River Community College

Project Identification

Pursuant to Virginia Code §10.1-1188 for major state projects in excess of \$500,000, Radford University submits this Environmental Impact Report for review and comment for the proposed acquisition of three properties in close proximity to campus. The properties comprise approximately .60 acres of commercial and multi-family residential district property located within roughly one block of the university's main central campus. The structures located on each of the properties are planned to be demolished prior to closing as they are in poor condition and of no use to the university. Following demolition, the sites will be stabilized with compacted soil and a top layer of gravel in areas identified for parking.

Justification

In 2010, the university submitted a capital request for the planning and acquisition of property, as it became available, east and north of the main campus as identified in the 2008 approved Master Plan. The university's growth over the past several decades has minimized the available opportunities for additional facilities within the current campus footprint, such that the acquisition of adjacent properties is a critical aspect of the ability to facilitate future potential growth of the campus. The Master Plan encouraged strategies to focus on acquisition of out-parcel property within the main campus area that is currently not owned by the university, land adjacent to the "riverfront" campus area, and land east of Jefferson Street and west of Tyler Avenue. The Master Plan also emphasized the university's need to be proactive in exploring strategic acquisition opportunities in all of the above areas.

The recently approved 2020-2030 Master Plan continues to emphasize the importance of proactively exploring potential options for property acquisitions to enhance the university's ability to continue to grow in its ability to offer higher education opportunities in the future. The identified acquisitions directly support the stated goals and outcomes of the 2020-2030 Master Plan.

Description

The university has identified six properties for acquisition. Given the timing of the acquisitions of these various properties, there will be two separate groupings of properties. This particular EIR is for the first grouping.

The properties identified for acquisition are: 407 Jefferson Street, 608 and 614 Davis Street

The attached photographs and maps indicate the location of the properties.

Affected Environment

The properties are located in the City of Radford's R-4 Multi-Family zoning district. The properties are located with frontage along Radford City streets Jefferson and Davis. The City of Radford utilities including electric, water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer will be capped with demolition and site stabilization.

While each property has utility easements located on them they do not interfere with the current planned and continued use of the properties. There are no covenants, reservations, or rights-of-way that would interfere with the current planned and continued use of the properties.

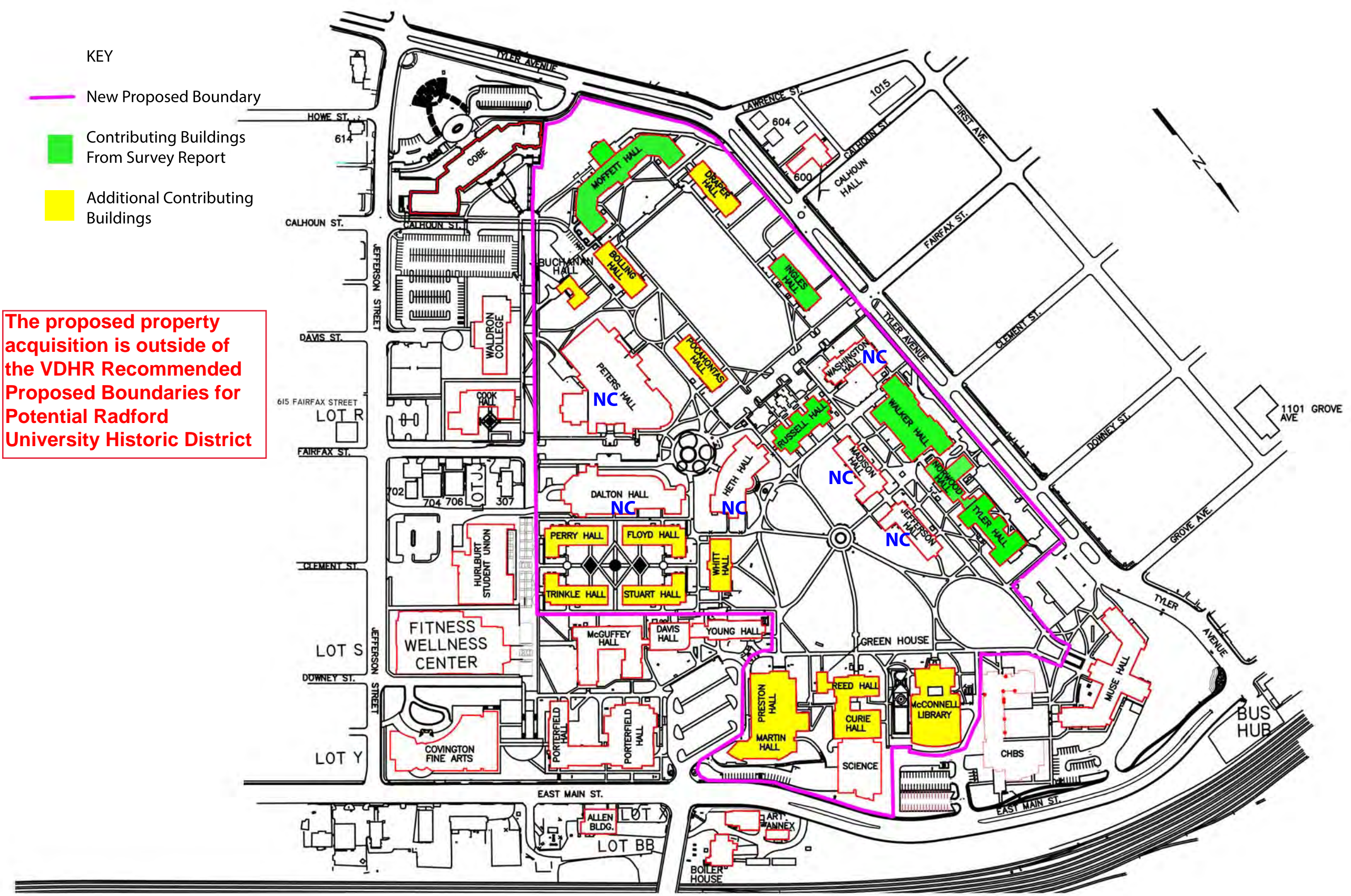
The properties do not fall within the VDHR-Recommended Proposed Boundaries for Potential Radford University Historic District, as documented by the Reconnaissance-Level Architectural Survey performed by the university in 2016 and shown on the attached map.

The current owner has had limited Phase 1 reports prepared on the properties. While none of these reports noted any items of concern, the university intends to have their own Phase 1 reports prepared prior to completing acquisition and following structure demolition.

The existing sites consist primarily of clay soils, and the overall topography is flat to sloping down toward the north. Vegetation is minimal, comprised of a mix of ornamental plants and grasses for landscaping purposes, with no evidence of significant fauna present.

Environmental Impacts

- No endangered, threatened, or rare plants, animals, or insects exist within the proposed acquisition area.
- No significant habitat for terrestrial wildlife and birds exists within the proposed acquisition area.
- No unique or important terrestrial vegetation exists within the proposed acquisition area.
- No aquatic life exists within the proposed acquisition area.
- No anadromous fish use areas, trout streams, or colonial water bird nesting colonies exist within the proposed acquisition area.
- No archaeological sites exist within the proposed acquisition area.



Appendix Revised Figure 9 VDHR-Recommended Proposed Boundaries for Potential Radford University Historic District



6580 Valley Center Drive | Suite 124 | Radford, VA 24141 | 540-639-9313

N R V R C . O R G

May 19, 2022

Executive Director's Report

Economic Development:

- The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) committee identified two nominees for the Commission to consider that will fill vacancies in Giles County and Pulaski County.
- Environmental review documents are being prepared for the VATI 2022 broadband project. Agreements between the VA Dept of Housing and Community Development/NRVRC and the counties/NRVRC are in draft form.
- The Regional Economic Strategy (RES) committee met to review the updated goals/strategies, project ranking criteria and identify the top projects. This year there are 10 top projects, plus four, that are highly relevant based on economic development partner targeted efforts.

Transportation:

- The Huckleberry Trail Plan draft was shared last week with the Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee along with key project partners. Feedback from this group will be incorporated before distributing widely.
- The I-81 Advisory Committee will hold their first meeting for 2022 in July. The date is yet to be determined. The committee last met in April, 2021.
- VDOT held public input meetings last week on the Six-Year Improvement Program and several speakers addressed the I-81 Improvement Plan needing to add a third lane southbound between exits 140 and 132. Federal infrastructure bills may provide an opportunity to add this into the program.
- NRV Passenger Rail leadership group met with the Secretary of Transportation, his leadership team, and legislators last week to discuss current status of the project. It was clear the new administration is well informed and making progress on the project.
- Nine of the ten potential members of the NRV Passenger Rail Station Authority have taken action to join. A decision from the last potential member is anticipated in the coming weeks. Once all members are confirmed, a memo will be distributed requesting appointments to serve on the Authority board.

Natural Resources:

- ReNew the New will take place August 27th. Stay tuned for event details and local clean-ups.
- New River Symposium took place in April at the New River Gorge with 112 participants. Nicole Hersch served as co-chair with John Copeland for the event.

Regional:

- The regional awards program kicks off this month with solicitation of nominees. Nominations are due August 15th!

Commission:

- Bethany Peters was recently promoted from an internship to a full-time position as Regional Planner/Information Specialist. Bethany has a creative background with a bachelor's degree in music education from Radford University and transitioned into the information technology

field with a web development degree and design certificates from New River Community College. She is a life-long resident of the New River Valley.

- Hannah Palko will start in mid-June as a Geospatial Analyst/Regional Cartographer. She is wrapping up a PhD in Geography from UNC-Charlotte and has a master's degree in Ecology from UNC-Chapel Hill along with a BS in Biology from Meredith College.



6580 Valley Center Drive | Suite 124 | Radford, VA 24141 | 540-639-9313

N R V R C . O R G

MEMORANDUM

To: NRVRC Commissioners

From: Kevin R. Byrd, Executive Director

Date: May 17, 2022

Re: Calfee Community & Cultural Center Overview

At the May Commission meeting, Jill Williams - Consultant and Acting Executive Director with the Calfee Community & Cultural Center, will provide a presentation on the center. The Regional Commission has provided general advisement as their organization has successfully pursued funding from multiple entities much like the Old Prices Fork School project. Regional Commission staff has also provided landscape architecture design services as part of the play space redevelopment on the site. Below is information provided by Ms. Williams in anticipation of the presentation.

In 2018, a group of local citizens partnered with the Town of Pulaski, the YMCA of Pulaski County, and the Pulaski County Department of Social Services to begin the process of revitalizing the historic Calfee Training School, which had been sitting empty for over 10 years. Despite operating for almost a century, the school's existence, and its significance to the history of Pulaski were largely unknown outside the local African American community. A community visioning process which engaged 300 Pulaski County residents led to a vision for a future Calfee Community and Cultural Center (CCCC) that will:

- Honor the rich history of Calfee Training School and increase awareness of local African American history by establishing and operating a museum in the facility and other interpretive elements throughout the building and grounds;
- Provide spaces for multi-generational social, educational and cultural programming to families and individuals in the New River Valley and visitors to our region;
- House the Chauncey and Lucy Harmon Learning Center which will provide much needed early childhood education opportunities in Pulaski County's childcare desert;
- Strengthen the local food economy and food security through the Lena Huckstep Kitchen;
- Connect Pulaski County residents to basic and advanced digital literacy skills and internet access through the Dorothy DeBerry Venable Digital Learning Lab;
- Serve as a community resource center by offering office space to social service and mental health organizations as well as small businesses; and
- Provide technologically equipped multipurpose spaces for a range of social, cultural, and professional gatherings; and
- Connect community leaders, organizations, and families to more effectively work across organizational, racial, generational, and class lines.

A 2019 CDBG planning grant allowed the CCCC Board of Directors, a majority of whom are alumni of the Jim Crow era school, to partner with the Town of Pulaski to prepare the architectural and business plans for the

future facility. Since then, the project has raised nearly \$3 million of a total budget that has grown to \$5 million with skyrocketing construction costs. Pending grant proposals and historic tax credits will cover the balance of the renovation project which is slated to begin by the end of 2022 and be complete by the end of 2023.

More information on the project can be found at www.calfeccc.org. And a video overview of the project can be viewed at calfeccc.org/our-vision.



6580 Valley Center Drive | Suite 124 | Radford, VA 24141 | 540-639-9313

N R V R C . O R G

MEMORANDUM

To: NRVRC Board Members
From: Joy Rumley, Director of Economic Development
Date: May 26, 2022
Re: 2022-23 Regional Economic Strategy Update

Each year, the New River Valley Regional Commission reviews and updates the region's Regional Economic Strategy (RES). The purpose of the RES is to continue federal and local partnerships to address economic development in the region. The RES also documents the planning efforts to identify economic development needs in the region and the creation of the strategy document.

This memo provides an update on the progress made to date on gathering stakeholder input, engaging committee members for strategy and priority setting, and identification of top projects as evaluated through a robust ranking rubric. From October 2021 to April 2022, staff has met with each Town/County administration and/or economic development staff throughout the region to update the project list. To date, there are over 115 projects identified. In more recent years, there have been over 50 projects that had been on the project list but are now considered complete. The top ranked projects were identified through a vigorous rubric along project readiness, economic competitiveness and regional alignment.

More recently, two RES committee meetings have been held, on April 1 and May 6, to review the Priority and Strategies, discuss ranking criteria and review the "Top 10 plus 4" project list, and input on the draft RES document. An additional committee meeting will be held June 6 to review final documents and discuss ways to provide support around top projects. The NRVRC has also launched a site for ongoing engagement: www.engagenrv.org/res.

Attached please find the final priority and strategies document and the Top 10 plus 4 Project List. Please note that these projects embody the document's priorities and are in alignment with other regional strategies as identified by Onward New River Valley and Go Virginia's Region 2 Growth and Diversification plan. Should you have any questions or wish to review all information related to the RES, please contact me.

Counties
Floyd | Giles
Montgomery | Pulaski

City
Radford

Towns
Blacksburg | Christiansburg
Floyd | Narrows | Pearisburg
Pembroke | Pulaski | Rich Creek

Higher Education
Virginia Tech | Radford University
New River Community College

New River Valley Regional Economic Strategy 2022

Priority 1: Support Business Development and Entrepreneurship.

Strategy 1.1 - Provide a comprehensive array of support services for small business development and growth.

- a. Encourage micro and small business success in downtown and commercial districts, through revitalization and promotions of community individuality.
- b. Develop and support peer networks and events to bring together small businesses in similar industries, such as tourism/outdoor recreation, technology, and health.
- c. Coordinate and improve accessibility of counseling, technical assistance and financing resources offered to local business owners by local, regional, and state partners.

Strategy 1.2 - Improve the region's ability to foster and retain fast-growing businesses in target sectors.

- a. Improve access to capital for high-growth firms through the development of angel investor groups and promoting partnerships between capital sources and fundable firms.
- b. Support the development of university technology commercialization and industry research partnerships, building on existing efforts in unmanned systems, health/medical technology, and cloud computing/internet/IT.
- c. Support and develop business incubator and technical resources targeted to firms with growth potential

Strategy 1.3 - Promote entrepreneurship and provide resources for New River Valley residents to start their own business.

- a. Support local entrepreneurship promotion initiatives, such as business plan competitions and youth entrepreneurship initiatives.
- b. Coordinate local incentives to encourage business development in targeted sectors that align with local economic development strategies, such as tourism/hospitality, agribusiness, manufacturing support services, etc.
- c. Develop incubators, co-working, and maker spaces, and other resources to allow low-cost options to support entrepreneurs through the start-up phase.

Strategy 1.4 - Focus local and regional economic development marketing efforts on target industries and firms that build on the region's strengths.

- a. Assess and improve the ability of the region to meet the workforce, infrastructure, and facility requirements of firms in the region's target industry sectors and prioritize projects that address these needs (industrial sites, workforce initiative, green energy requirements, etc.).
- b. Coordinate and promote the technical expertise, research capabilities, and pipeline of skilled graduates that the region's community college and universities can provide to business and industry.
- c. Target recruitment to firms with significant supplier relationships to existing NRV firms and firms that can benefit existing regional assets, including foreign trade zone, interstate access, Commerce Park, university research, etc.

Priority 2: Preparation and Continued Support of Qualified, Available Workforce.

Strategy 2.1 - Align education and training programs with the current and future needs of the region's existing employers and target industry sectors.

- a. Establish partnerships between industry/business and all levels of education and provide students with more "real world" learning opportunities.
- b. Improve awareness of career options in local industries among K-12, community college, and university students and graduates.
- c. Develop a career pathways approach to ensure regional colleges and universities provide training, credentials, and degrees that allow workers to advance their careers in local industries.

Strategy 2.2 - Established a strong foundation for lifelong learning and career success for New River Valley residents.

- a. Ensure quality, affordable pre-school programs are available throughout the New River Valley.
- b. Ensure career counseling, technical education, and enrichment activities are available throughout the region to support K-12 students' plans and preparation for careers or post-secondary education.

Strategy 2.3 - Increase the availability and accessibility of supporting services that New River Valley residents need to participate fully in the workforce.

- a. Increase the availability of quality, affordable childcare facilities for all areas of the New River Valley.
- b. Ensure access to quality, affordable healthcare and wellness options for physical, mental, and social well-being and safety
- c. Coordinate resources to provide low-cost options or tuition assistance for residents seeking college degrees or workforce training

Strategy 2.4 - Ensure the New River Valley is competitive in its efforts to attract and retain talented workers in the region's target industry sectors.

- a. Coordinate industry recruitment and economic development marketing efforts to address shortages of specific technical workers or skilled professionals that hamper growth in target industries.
- b. Implement projects that improve the quality of life and availability of housing and services to meet the needs of the region's current and future workforce.
- c. Encourage and promote work from home and telework opportunities to keep and attract remote talent within the region.

Priority 3: Utilize Available Land and Expand Quality Infrastructure.

Strategy 3.1 - Expand transportation options to meet the needs of businesses and residents.

- a. Develop and expand regional transit systems, rideshare programs, and other initiatives that connect population centers to employment centers to improve access for rural residents.
- b. Promote land-use policies that maximize the opportunities of regional access to transportation networks, including interstates and major highways, freight rail, and airports.

- c. Promote and support the development of a passenger rail station in the New River Valley.
- d. Expand the regional walking and biking trails, bike lanes, and pedestrian safety improvements.

Strategy 3.2 - Identify opportunities to expand and improve the region's high-speed internet available to residents and offer services to meet the needs of households and businesses within the New River Valley.

- a. Encourage the development of broadband networks in unserved rural areas and improve the capacity of broadband connections in underserved communities.
- b. Support local service providers' efforts to bring fiber to the home.
- c. Encourage the development of network redundancy around critical services (emergency services, health care facilities, schools, government buildings, etc.) to be prepared for emergency and disaster situations.
- d. Retrofit historic buildings to provide improved broadband options.

Strategy 3.3 - Develop and maintain adequate and affordable housing stock within the region.

- a. Develop and encourage youth programs that offer on-the-job training in construction and other related skilled trades (electricians, HVAC technicians, plumbers, masons, etc.) related to the housing industry.
- b. Reinvestment in housing stock to provide renovation and retrofitting to older homes.
- c. Investigate programs that establish regional purchasing power for building materials to reduce building material costs.
- d. Business support for construction firms to improve business practices and cash flow.

Strategy 3.4 - Develop and maintain available sites and buildings to meet the needs of industrial and commercial users.

- a. Incentivize rehabilitation of deteriorating structures in historic downtown districts and encourage mixed-use development in growth areas and downtown districts.
- b. Inventory and assess vacant industrial and commercial properties, identify appropriate uses for the buildings and related retrofitting needs.
- c. Promote and support shovel-ready mid and large-sized industrial sites projects.
- d. Promote and support building energy efficiency through efforts to increase demand for these features through public education and valuation for energy efficiency improvements.

Strategy 3.5 - Explore and implement alternative energy options within the region.

- a. Promote and support the ability of government, business, residents to invest in alternative renewable energy sources and infrastructure.
- b. Education programs to inform citizens about options and benefits of alternative energy for residents.
- c. Promote the New River Valley's alternative energy efforts as an asset for regional attraction.

Priority 4: Preserve and Promote the Natural and Cultural Resources in the Region.

Strategy 4.1 - Preserve the New River Valley's natural and historic assets to protect the character and quality of the regional environment.

- a. Support and encourage the continuation of family farms through efforts to increase the market for local agricultural products, including farmers markets, regional aggregation facilities, and "farm to school" programs.
- b. Utilize tourism initiatives to preserve open spaces, historic sites, and vital natural attractions with local non-profits, historical societies, conservation groups, etc.
- c. Coordinate conservation, outdoor recreation, and tourism initiatives related to the New River within the region and neighboring regions.
- d. Improve land use planning and practices to preserve the region's rural character and encourage development in existing population and employment centers.

Strategy 4.2 - Coordinate marketing and promotion campaigns to create a consistent brand and message for the New River Valley.

- a. Explore options to provide regional support and coordination for tourism promotion campaigns of the county, city, and town destination marketing organizations.
- b. Leverage state and regional tourism and economic development marketing programs aligned with New River Valley marketing initiatives.
- c. Identify, develop, and package the region's historical and cultural assets, arts natural features, outdoor recreation amenities, and events to support external marketing.

Priority 5: Encourage Business Friendly Governance and Organizational Representation.

Strategy 5.1 - Promote a business-friendly environment through governments cooperating with businesses at the local level and advocating for them at the state and federal levels.

- a. Seek representation on state commissions and committees and the Go Virginia Region 2 Counsel.
- b. Provide input to state agencies from regional economic development organizations and NRVRC to ensure state policies and programs address local issues.
- c. Support police, fire, and medical operations throughout the region.
- d. Coordinate state's regional resources to expand the capacity and resources of local governments to implement desired economic development programs.

Strategy 5.2 - Develop and maintain partnerships among organizations, educational institutions, and government entities.

- a. Build relationships between groups to collaborate to facilitate the exchange of information to benefit the region.
- b. Collaborate with multi-disciplinary stakeholders and partners to develop strategies and tackle priority regional projects.
- c. Coordinate events that foster cross-organizational relationships.

New River Valley Regional Economic Strategy 2022 -- Top 10 + 4 Projects

Project description	Estimated funding	Target date	Responsible agency
<p>Development of Broadband Infrastructure and Internet Availability. Implement recommendations of studies in local jurisdictions (Montgomery, Pulaski, Giles). NRV will continue to pursue additional funds for underserved areas.</p>	\$68,000,000	2022-2024	Private Internet Service Providers and NRV Localities
<p>The Future of Transportation and Logistics. Virginia Tech leads regional coalitions that aims to support the local transportation and logistics cluster and accelerate the adoption of electric and automated (uncrewed) vehicles. The coalition plans to build upon its existing strengths in vehicle manufacturing, digital technology R&D, and vehicle test and evaluation. The coalition proposes to support this cluster through three distinct projects providing more accessible technology testbeds and networks for tech transfer, business development support, and talent development services.</p>	\$24,000,000	2022-2024	Virginia Tech, NRV localities
<p>Provide technical assistance services to supply chain firms of regional manufacturers. Engage university experts and industrial consultants to provide product testing/prototyping, market analysis, process improvement, and other technical assistance services to support the competitiveness of suppliers to large regional manufacturers.</p>	\$6,000,000	2022-2024	Onward NRV, Virginia Tech, local economic development, private business
<p>Implement 'sector strategies' focus for workforce development programs to meet needs in target industry sectors. Develop relationships between regional businesses and education, economic development, and related stakeholder organizations to provide services that ensure success of these industries in the region. Enhance integrated 'career pathways' workforce curriculum to develop workforce skills that address needs of targeted industry sectors, especially manufacturing, IT, and healthcare.</p>	\$25,000,000	2022-2026	NRMR WDB, Education providers, local industries
<p>Manage, promote and expand local and regional revolving loan fund programs. Deploy RLFs to small businesses and entrepreneurs across the region. Secure funds to recapitalize the loan fund to target scale up opportunities and emergent business sectors.</p>	\$100,000	2022-2024	NRVRC, local economic development, RRSBDC
<p>Commercial District Revitalization efforts. Encourage micro and small business success in downtown and commercial districts, through revitalization and promotions of community individuality, redevelopment of blighted properties, and small business support services.</p>	\$10,000,000	2022-2026	NRVRC, participating localities, RRSBDC
<p>Support of local agriculture, growers, and producers. Through business development services, networking and mentoring, local farmers and agriculture producers can expand business opportunities in the food/beverage and small-scale manufacturing industries to increase production and profitability.</p>	\$100,000	2023-2024	Cooperative Extension office, local economic developers, Thrive network, farmers markets, RRSBDC

<p>Promote and coordinate the development of a New River Valley passenger rail station. In conjunction with the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and the New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority, coordinate state and private stakeholders to pursue development of this passenger service from Roanoke to Christiansburg.</p>	\$4,500,000	2025	NRV Localities, Higher Ed, State Agencies, Public/Private Railroad Companies, NRVRC
<p>New River Water Trail Expansion Project. Support regional and local efforts to develop outdoor recreation tourism amenities related to the New River and other natural resources, such as boat ramps and access, signage, marketing, education, safety, stewardship and other recreation supportive projects.</p>	\$2,500,000	2022-2024	NRVRC, local governments and tourism orgs, New River Watershed Roundtable, National Park Service, VA Dept of Wildlife Resources, Friends of New River
<p>Industrial Site development and upgrades. Site grading, pad site development, shell building construction and other infrastructure upgrades to the region's industrial parks and sites, along with marketing and advocacy of available sites.</p>	\$15,000,000	2022-2026	Virginia's First RIFA, local economic development, Onward NRV
<p>Housing Production. Development of a wider range of homeowners opportunities and rental; development of greenfield sites for housing.</p>	\$100,000,000	2022-2026	Private and non-profit developers, local governments
<p>Blockchain Ecosystem Catalyst Virginia Tech will develop and implement academic programming, professional talent development, developing industry relationships, and launching an online resource portal for blockchain startups and professionals. The program is designed to encourage entrepreneurship and commercialization of blockchain-related technologies and bolster existing IT pipelines around blockchain systems.</p>	\$500,000	2022-2023	VA Tech; private industry
<p>Bio-medical/life sciences expansion. The Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center in partnership with the city of Roanoke, Montgomery County, and Johnson & Johnson JLABS, will support a three-prong approach to grow the region's health and life science cluster. The project will pilot a shared lab facility in Blacksburg at the VTCRC to meet the demand from small, early-stage companies, many of which are spinoffs from Virginia Tech and/or alumni of the Regional Accelerator & Mentoring Program (RAMP).</p>	\$600,000	2022-2023	VA Tech, private industry, Montgomery County. RRSBDC
<p>Valley to Valley Trail Study. Perform analysis combined with consensus building to result in a recommended alignment that will connect the Roanoke River Greenway to the New River Trail while connecting to other recreational facilities in the region such as the Huckleberry Trail in Christiansburg.</p>	\$100,000	2022-2024	VDOT, NRVRC, NRVMPO



6580 Valley Center Drive | Suite 124 | Radford, VA 24141 | 540-639-9313

NRVRC.ORG

MEMORANDUM

To: NRVRC Board Members

From: Joy Rumley, Director of Economic Development

Date: May 26, 2022

Re: NRVRC Revolving Loan Fund – New Committee Members Appointment

The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) committee has continued to meet regularly, market the loan fund opportunity and field inquiries from potential businesses.

Since the Commission’s original appointment of RLF committee members, several have had conflicting obligations or are no longer in the position to allow them to fully participate. Staff is now recommending two (2) replacements to continue the mission of the revolving loan fund. These new recommended members are highlighted below in red. Staff recommends approval of these committee members.

Name	Title	Organization/Representation
Clyde Cornett	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	Virginia Community Capital
Hil Johnson	Christiansburg Planning Commission	Town of Christiansburg; NRVRC
Kim Repass	Economic Development Director/Interim Tourism Director	City of Radford
Lydeana Martin	Community and Economic Development Director	Floyd County
Paul Mylum	Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer	National Bank of Blacksburg
*Lydia Gilmer	Small Business Solutions Manager	Pulaski County
*Debbie Thomas	Clerk/Treasurer	Town of Narrows

Should you have any questions or wish to review all information related to the RFL, please contact me.

Counties
Floyd | Giles
Montgomery | Pulaski

City
Radford

Towns
Blacksburg | Christiansburg
Floyd | Narrows | Pearisburg
Pembroke | Pulaski | Rich Creek

Higher Education
Virginia Tech | Radford University
New River Community College



6580 Valley Center Drive | Suite 124 | Radford, VA 24141 | 540-639-9313

N R V R C . O R G

MEMORANDUM

To: NRVRC Commissioners

From: Kevin R. Byrd, Executive Director

Date: May 17, 2022

Re: Annual Commission Awards Process and Criteria for Review/Discussion

In 2014 the Commission initiated an awards program. The Commission identified three award categories, established criteria and solicits nominees each year. The previous award recipients are listed at the end of the memo. Below are the award criteria and the process anticipated for the 2022 awards for review and discussion before launching the call for nominees which will be due by August 15th.

Champion of the Valley: an elected or appointed official (past or present) from within or representing the New River Valley that has made significant contributions for the betterment of the region. Focus will be on candidates that have regional impact, improve communities through their dedication, and collaborative approach.

Citizen of the Valley: an individual or organization within the New River Valley that has made significant contributions toward the betterment of the region. Focus will be on candidates that improve communities through their dedication, collaborative approach and overall impact.

Friend of the Valley: an individual or organization outside of the New River Valley that has made significant contributions to the betterment of the region. Focus will be on candidates that improve communities through their regional impact, dedication, and collaborative approach.

Please tell us why you think your nominee should be recognized as exemplifying one of the award categories in 750 words or less. This input will be the primary document used to select award recipients. Nominations should include examples of how the candidate contributes within the context of the proposed award category. In addition, you may want to include how the candidate impressed you or has influenced your work, what projects, positions and/or volunteer activities the candidate has been engaged with, and/or why the candidate stands out and should be recognized. Previous nominees may be resubmitted for consideration. The Regional Commission Board of Directors will select the 2022 award recipients by ballot at their meeting on August 25th.

Process:

May – Commission review award criteria and process

June – Release call for award nominees, due August 15th

August – Commission review and select award recipients

September – Contact award recipients to ensure schedule availability for October award presentation

October – Present awards at annual dinner event

Past Award Winners**Champion of the Valley**

2014 – Joseph Sheffey (Pulaski County Board of Supervisors, retired)

2015 – Congressman Rick Boucher (9th Congressional District, retired)

2016 – Delegate Joseph Yost and William Brown (12th House District in Virginia; Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, retired)

2017 – Chris McKlarney (Giles County Administrator)

2018 – Susan Kidd (Director of Strategic Development – Town of Narrows)

2019 – Delegate Nick Rush (7th House District in Virginia)

2020 – Chris Tuck (Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, retired)

2021 – Lydeana Martin (Floyd County) and Craig Meadows (Montgomery County Administrator)

Citizen of the Valley

2014 – Dr. Charles Steger (Virginia Tech President, retired)

2015 – Mr. Ken Anderson (Anderson and Associates, retired)

2016 – Penelope Kyle, JD (Radford University President, 2005-2016)

2017 – Woody Crenshaw (Floyd Entrepreneur)

2018 – P. Buckley Moss (Artist/Philanthropist) and David Hagan (Business Owner/Community Investor)

2019 – Raymond Smoot (Community Leader)

2020 – Bill Ellenbogen (Community Advocate)

2021 – Shelley Fortier (Habitat for Humanity of the NRV, retired) and John Dooley (VT Foundation, retired)

Friend of the Valley

2016 – Mary Moody Northen Foundation (Mountain Lake Lodge)

2017 – Bill Shelton (Director of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development)

2019 – John Smolak, III (Appalachian Power)