



Roanoke Valley- Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

2013 Annual Update

Submitted By:
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional
Commission



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Section 1: Introduction and Community Participation



Introduction

A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a document and ongoing planning process designed to bring together the public and private sectors in the creation of a regional economic roadmap. This roadmap is designed to diversify and strengthen regional economies. This CEDS document assesses regional economies, establish regional goals and objectives, and outline an action plan of priority projects. In general, CEDS documents present a set of regional priorities that when undertaken improve regional competitiveness and wealth in a global economy.

The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (RVAR CEDS) is the product of a planning process involving a committee of 38 voting members representing the local governments, several major employers, small businesses, workforce development, regional economic development, higher education, and minority groups.

On January 25, 2007, the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission adopted the 2007 Update to its Strategic Plan, which called for the development of a regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany region and for the pursuit of the region’s designation as an Economic Development District by the United States Economic Development Administration. Throughout much of 2008, a committee composed of both public and private sector interests representing the member governments of the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission worked diligently to define the region’s goals and priorities.

A regular ongoing economic planning function was initiated for the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region in 2008. In keeping with the regular update cycle prescribed by the US Economic Development Administration, annual reports will be published every year starting in the 2009/2010 Fiscal Year.

This document, the *Roanoke Valley - Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2013 Annual Report* outlines annual progress made in implementing the strategy and on any revisions made to the Goals and Objectives and/or to the Prioritization Criteria. This document will also detail the FY 2013 project package and outline the project ranking process.

Organization and Management

The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (RVAR CEDS) planning process is managed by the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission, as the CEDS District Organization. The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) was created in 1969 as one of Virginia’s 21 Planning District Commissions (PDCs). The purpose of PDCs as set out in the Code of Virginia is

“...to encourage and facilitate local government cooperation and state-local cooperation in addressing on a regional basis problems of greater than local significance. The cooperation resulting from this chapter is intended to facilitate the recognition and analysis of regional opportunities and take account of regional influences in planning and implementing public policies and services. The planning district commission shall also promote the orderly and efficient development of the physical, social, and economic elements of the district by planning, and encouraging and assisting localities to plan, for the future.”

The RVARC member governments include the Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, and Roanoke; the Cities of Covington, Roanoke, and Salem; and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton. Franklin County and the Town of Rocky Mount are joint members with West Piedmont Planning District Commission and are represented in the WPPDC’s CEDS document; therefore, the RVAR CEDS initiative does not include Franklin County or the Town of Rocky Mount.

The RVARC board includes elected and appointed representatives from each City and County in the region and includes liaison representation from the region’s Chambers of Commerce, Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, Workforce Development Board, Community Colleges, and regional economic development organizations.

The RVARC board, as the planning organization, is responsible for maintaining and coordinating the CEDS planning process. The RVARC created a Strategy Committee to develop the CEDS document, monitor implementation, and to formulate regional goals and objectives. The majority of Strategy Committee members work in the private sector and represent large and small employers. Represented in the Strategy Committee are each local government on the RVARC planning organization board, chambers of commerce, higher education, regional economic development, regional workforce development, and minority groups. The planning process was staffed by Wayne Strickland, Executive Director of the RVARC, and Eddie Wells, Senior Planner.

Community Participation

Participation by the community and collaboration between the public and private sector are cornerstones of a successful CEDS planning initiative and of regional economic development. Community involvement is a primary focus of the CEDS planning process and project development. Importantly, the Strategy Committee's composition was designed to include representatives from both large and small employers, governments, and a number of community and economic interests.

It is important to note that participation from a number of public entities and local utility companies was encouraged as well. RVARC staff sought to promote the initiative and to increase awareness throughout the larger community.

All project news and draft elements of the CEDS are routinely posted to the project web site. In addition, relevant project information was also shared periodically on the RVARC's Facebook page, which has more than 300 fans and is growing each month.

A total of two public meetings were advertised and held in the region to obtain feedback on the FY 2013 Annual Project Package.

Private Sector Participation

Private sector participation has been a vital component of the development of the CEDS strategy. Encouraging the participation of the regional business community will continue to be a focus as the Strategy Committee begins to implement specific projects and initiatives. Funding from private corporations and foundations will likely play a role in the planning and development of many of the proposed CEDS projects.

Numerous examples exist regarding how the regional business community will be absolutely vital to the implementation of CEDS initiatives. Most of the capital projects will eventually leverage some level of private investment and job creation if not in the project itself then as a direct result. A high level of cooperation between private banks and local and regional economic development will be needed as projects involving small business assistance are developed and implemented. The local banking community can assist in better understanding what inadequacies existing in small business financing and how regional revolving loan projects could best be designed to serve the region's needs more effectively.

This region has a standing tradition of including the private sector in economic planning and seeking private sector leadership and investment in regional economic development activities. The RVAR CEDS will only strengthen this tradition as it

identifies and elevates regional investment priorities to focus on projects that will have the greatest impact on the regional economy.



Section 2: Data Analysis



Overview

The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region is located in the western portion of Virginia and consists of the Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke, the Cities of Covington, Roanoke, and Salem, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton.¹The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region has a land area of approximately 1,633 square miles. It is bounded to the west by Greenbrier County, West Virginia, Monroe County, West Virginia, Giles County, Virginia and Montgomery County, Virginia, to the south by Floyd and Franklin Counties, to the east by Bedford and Rockbridge Counties, and to the north by Bath and Rockbridge Counties.

The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region contains the entire Roanoke Urbanized Area with the exception of small sections located in Bedford County and Montgomery County. The region also contains a significant portion of the Roanoke, Virginia Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes the Counties of Botetourt, Craig, Roanoke and Franklin and the Cities of Roanoke and Salem. The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region also includes the rural Alleghany Highlands area which has exhibited significant economic distress in recent years.

The region is served by a number of major interstate highways and major US highways. Interstate 81 crosses Roanoke County (running roughly parallel to the boundary of the City of Salem for a number of miles) and Botetourt County, running north and south. Interstate 581 is a spur from Interstate 81 and serves the County and City of Roanoke. Interstate 64 crosses the Alleghany Highlands area from East to West and connects with Interstate 81 farther east of the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region. US Highway 220 is an essential connection between the Alleghany Highlands, the Roanoke metropolitan area, and points south of the region. US Highway 220 also serves as a north-south connection between Interstate 81 and Interstate 64. US Highway 460 is an important east-west connection that crosses Roanoke County, the City of Salem, the City of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

The region has a significant rail history and heritage. Roanoke was an early transportation center serving as a crossroads for the Shenandoah Valley Railroad, which later became the Norfolk and Western Railway, and then Norfolk Southern.

¹ Franklin County and the Town of Rocky Mount are joint members with the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission and with West Piedmont Planning District Commission and are currently covered under the West Piedmont Planning District Commission’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document and process.

Currently both Norfolk Southern and CSX rail lines serve different portions of the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region.

Major Southern, Mid-Atlantic, and Northern population centers are accessible within hours of the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region.

The region is served by the Roanoke Regional Airport in Roanoke, the Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg, West Virginia. Commercial air passenger service is offered at the Roanoke Regional Airport in Roanoke, Virginia. The Roanoke Regional Airport is served by four commercial carriers - Allegiant Air, Delta, United Airlines, and US Airways - which offer service to several domestic hubs. Commuter air services are also offered at the Roanoke Regional Airport. Air freight providers include: Air Freight Air Cargo Carriers, Delta Connection Carriers, Federal Express, Quest Diagnostics, RAM Air Freight, United Express, UPS, and United Airways Express. The Greenbrier Airport provides private charter flights and major commercial flights and carriers Continental Airlines and Delta Airlines.

The region's topography is varied. Much of the Roanoke Urbanized Area lies within a large valley between the Southern Blue Ridge and the Allegheny Mountains centered on the Roanoke River. The surrounding rural areas are very mountainous with small valleys. The majority of the area lies within Virginia's Valley and Ridge Physiographic Province with a small portion of the southern-most and eastern-most portions within the Blue Ridge Physiographic Province. Many recreational opportunities are available in the region due largely to the mountain ranges in the area and the significant acreage owned by the National Forest Service, National Park Service, and other federal agencies. The Appalachian Trail runs through the northern section of Roanoke County and through portions of Craig and Botetourt Counties. The Blue Ridge Parkway runs through the counties of Botetourt and Roanoke and just to the south of the City of Roanoke. Carvins Cove, the second-largest municipal park in America, lies in northeast Roanoke County and southwest Botetourt County.

History

Named for Lord Botetourt, a royal Governor of Virginia, Botetourt County was formed in 1769 with boundaries extending west to the Mississippi River at a time when Virginia claimed most of the Northwest Territory. The entire study area was encompassed within Botetourt County's original boundaries. Alleghany County was formed in 1822 with an area previously encompassed by Bath County, which had been formed with land from Augusta and Botetourt County in 1790. Roanoke County was formed with area from Botetourt County in 1838. Craig County was formed in 1851 with land from Botetourt,

Giles, Roanoke and Monroe Counties. The City of Roanoke was incorporated as a City in 1884, Clifton Forge in 1906, Covington in 1952, and Salem in 1968.

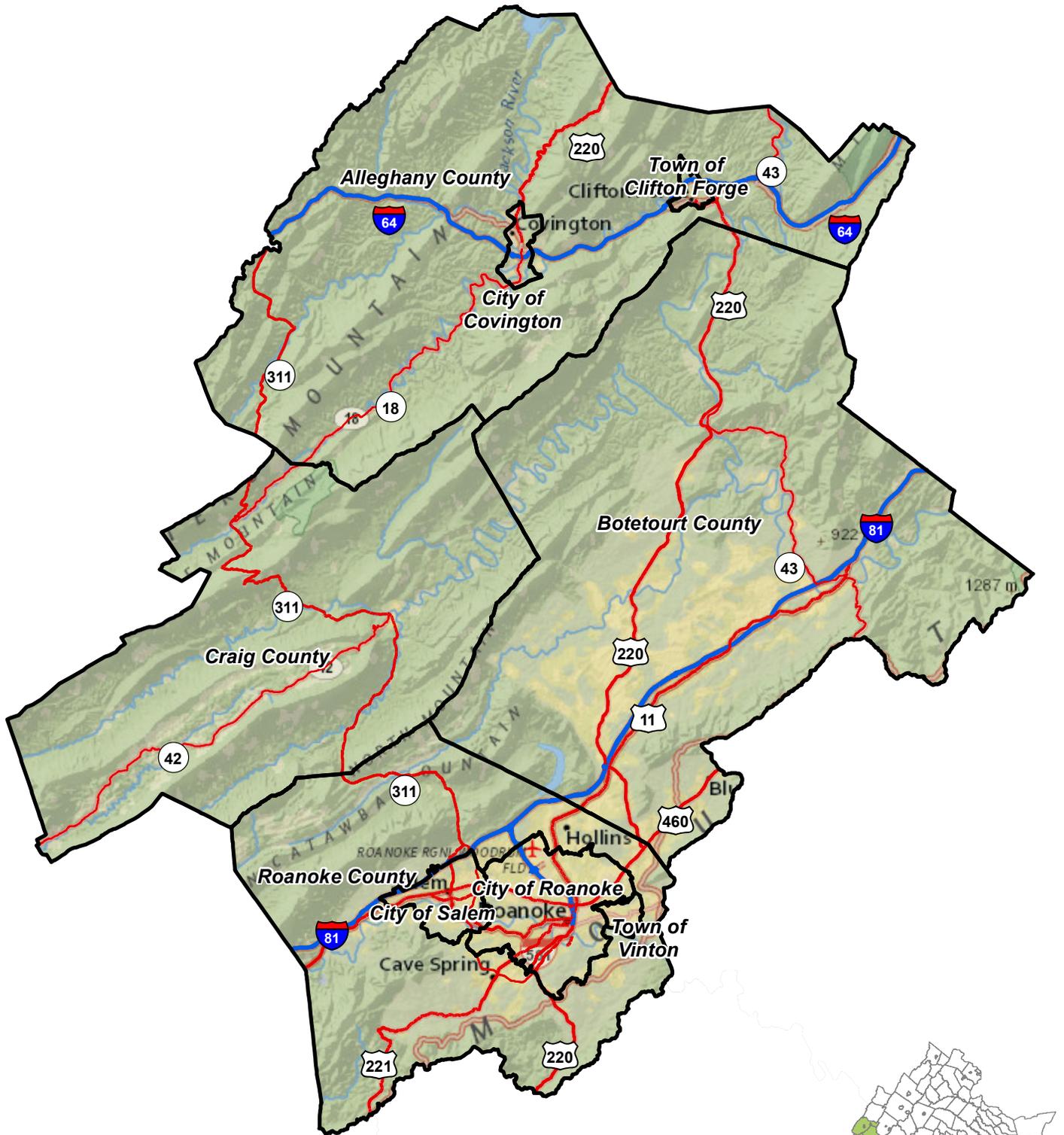
During the colonial era, the region was an important hub of trails and roads. The Great Wagon Road, which ran from Philadelphia through the Shenandoah Valley to North Carolina and Georgia, ran through the future site of the City of Roanoke. Another branch of the historic immigration route, the Wilderness Road, which ran southwest into present day Tennessee and Kentucky, connected at this junction as well.

In the 19th Century, the iron and railroad industry became of increasing importance in this region. Iron ore mining and iron production was key to the growth of the northern portion of the region including portions of Craig, Botetourt, and Alleghany Counties. Iron furnaces, the ruins of which can still be found today, operated profitably in this area for the better part of a century. During the Civil War, furnaces in the region produced canons and ammunitions and steel plates for warships. By the 1880's, the area became the iron capital of Virginia with its numerous iron mines and blast furnaces, which by then produced iron for railroad rails and plate for steam engines.

The railroad industry has a long history in the region. In the late 19th century, Roanoke was chosen to serve as a junction between the Shenandoah Valley Railroad and the Norfolk and Western Railroad. There was tremendous growth surrounding the rail activities. Roanoke quickly became incorporated as an independent city. The rail industry was also of importance to the Alleghany Highlands, as the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad took over the line through Clifton Forge in 1889.

Both the rail and iron industries prevalent in the 19th and early 20th century eventually waned in the region. The iron ore mining and iron producing industry almost completely disappeared after richer ore deposits were found in the Great Lakes region of the US. The C&O Railway, which at one time had a very significant presence in Clifton Forge including the railroad's major shop and a hotel, closed its shops in Clifton Forge in the 1980's. Roanoke was the headquarters of the Norfolk and Western Railway until a merger with Southern Railway created the Norfolk Southern Railway in 1982. Norfolk Southern maintains only marketing and some maintenance operations in the Roanoke area today.

Map 1: Roanoke Valley - Alleghany Region



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

Source: Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, 2013.

National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, IPC

Population

Several localities within the Roanoke region experienced an increase in their respective populations throughout the last decade. As can be seen in Table 1 below, most localities gained population with the exception of Alleghany County, City of Covington, and the Town of Clifton Forge. Botetourt and Roanoke Counties experienced population gains of 8.1% and 7.6% respectively. Overall, the population for the RVAR CEDS area increased 3.4% compared to a 12% increase in the Commonwealth over the same time period.

Locality		2000	2011*	Change
County	Alleghany **	12,926	12,402	-4.1
	Botetourt	30,496	32,956	8.1
	Craig	5,091	5,158	1.3
	Roanoke **	77,996	83,928	7.6
City	Covington	6,303	5,982	-5.1
	Roanoke	94,911	96,264	1.4
	Salem	24,747	24,733	-0.1
Town of Vinton		7,782	8,095	4.0
Town of Clifton Forge		4,289	3,924	-8.5
RVAR CEDS Region		264,541	273,442	3.4
Virginia		7,078,515	7,926,192	12.0

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2000, and *American Community Survey 2007-2011.

** Excludes town populations.

The population of the RVARC CEDS region is considerably older than that of the Commonwealth. Table 2 displays the median age of each of the jurisdictions and also disaggregates the population by age.

Locality		Median Age	under 5	5 to 19	20 to 39	40 to 59	60 to 64	65 and older
County	Alleghany	45.1	4.6	18.9	18.5	31.5	6.7	19.9
	Botetourt	44.3	4.9	19.6	18.4	32.4	8.6	16.2
	Craig	43.6	7.1	18.7	17.9	33.8	8.0	14.5
	Roanoke	42.6	5.1	19.2	21.4	30.6	6.7	17.0
City	Covington	43.8	4.9	20.2	20.1	30.4	5.2	18.3
	Roanoke	38.6	6.9	17.1	28.0	27.9	5.9	14.4
	Salem	39.9	5.3	19.5	25.3	26.6	6.5	16.8
Town of Vinton		38.3	8.2	16.5	27.4	26.1	5.9	15.8
Town of Clifton Forge		46.4	4.2	17.7	19.3	28.3	7.8	22.7
Virginia		37.3	6.4	19.9	27.5	28.7	5.5	12.1

Source: American Community Survey 2007-2011.

The data presented illustrate that the region's population is older by comparison to the Commonwealth. Based on recent demographic trends in the region it appears that the older population in the region will continue to expand. Data suggests that potential labor force issues related to a large percentage of retirees and declining number of people in the workforce are likely if the current population trends continue.

Gross Metropolitan Product

The Bureau of Economic Analysis produces annual estimates of Gross Domestic Product for metropolitan areas, states, and the nation. Data is unavailable for rural areas and a significant portion of the RVAR CEDS area is therefore not included in the estimate. However, the data are still a useful measure of general economic growth.

Table 3 illustrates that Gross Metropolitan Product for the Roanoke region has grown slower than the Commonwealth but slightly faster than what was experienced nationally.

Table 3: Gross Metropolitan Product: 2005 - 2010 Millions of Current Dollars						
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Change (2006- 2010)
Roanoke MSA	\$12,141	\$12,674	\$13,060	\$13,206	\$13,304	9.6%
Virginia Total	\$375,090	\$389,319	\$402,853	\$409,732	\$423,860	13.0%
US Metro Portion	\$11,970,693	\$12,566,572	\$12,825,351	\$12,604,487	\$13,071,502	9.2%
US Total GDP	\$13,310,937	\$13,969,323	\$14,270,462	\$14,014,849	\$14,551,782	9.3%

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2012.

Income

Data available on income trends in the region indicate that the median income is increasing for the majority of localities throughout the region. Table 4 below displays median household income for each RVAR CEDS locality. The cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem all experienced a decrease in their respective median household incomes. The Town of Vinton experienced a significant increase in median income growth.

It is important to note that median household income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half having income above that amount, and half having income below that amount. It is considered by many to be a better indicator as it is not affected as much by unusually high and low income values.

Locality		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Change (2007/2009 - 2011)
County	Alleghany	43,133	42,341	42,005	43,160	44,329	2.77%
	Botetourt	61,012	61,778	59,823	64,725	65,633	7.57%
	Craig	50,184	45,703	48,845	51,291	54,120	7.84%
	Roanoke	61,340	60,032	57,800	59,446	62,895	2.54%
City	Covington	36,255	35,762	35,758	35,277	36,242	-0.04%
	Roanoke	38,535	37,029	35,811	36,422	37,753	-2.03%
	Salem	48,701	45,690	47,746	48,828	48,050	-1.34%
Town of Vinton		Unavailable		39,278	42,467	44,667	13.72%
Town of Clifton Forge		Unavailable		33,621	34,256	35,988	7.04%
Virginia		61,875	61,210	60,316	61,406	63,302	2.31%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2012

The regions per capita income (PCI) can be seen in Table 5. PCI is total income divided by total population. It is generally considered to not be as good an indicator as median household income because small wealthy or low income populations can increase (or decrease) per capita income far above that of the majority of residents. Per capita income does not measure individual income or wealth. However, the Economic Development Administration requires that PCI be used to determine locality eligibility.

Locality		PCI	Percent of US
County	Alleghany	\$22,444	80%
	Botetourt	\$30,293	109%
	Craig	\$25,046	90%
	Roanoke	\$31,617	113%
City	Covington	\$21,474	77%
	Roanoke	\$23,023	82%
	Salem	\$27,143	97%
Town of Vinton		\$23,794	85%
Town of Clifton Forge		\$21,230	76%
Virginia		\$33,040	118%
United States		\$27,915	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2011.

Labor Force

Human capital is one of the single most important assets a community can offer prospective businesses. The lack of human capital is also one of the hardest economic development deficiencies a community could ever seek to overcome. Data have already been presented suggesting that key working age cohorts are decreasing.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics data provided in Table 6, Alleghany County, Craig County, Covington, and Clifton Forge have seen a decline in the size of their respective labor forces since 2000. In fact, none of the RVAR CEDS localities have seen growth in their labor force matching the level of growth in the Commonwealth, which increased by 13.8% since 2000. Roanoke County's labor force increased by 6.8% throughout the last decade.

Locality		2000	2010	% change
County	Alleghany	7,684	7,122	-7.9
	Botetourt	16,374	17,525	6.6
	Craig	2,488	2,473	-0.6
	Roanoke	45,736	49,057	6.8
City	Covington	2,882	2,785	-3.5
	Roanoke	46,423	47,733	2.7
	Salem	12,897	13,469	4.2
Town of Vinton		4,016	4,219	4.8
Town of Clifton Forge		1,832	1,520	-20.5
Virginia		3,584,037	4,157,362	13.8

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012. U.S. Census Bureau,

American Community Survey, 2012.

Unemployment

The impact of the most recent recession continues to affect all regional localities, especially when analyzing Bureau of Labor Statistics unemployment figures. Based on declining unemployment rates, it does appear as though the region is starting to recover jobs lost during the past few years. All localities within the RVAR CEDS region saw their average annual unemployment rates decrease over the course of the last year. Localities with an unemployment rate of at least 1 percentage point above the 24 month national average are eligible for EDA assistance. Table 7 provides historical unemployment rates and Table 7 shows average unemployment rates for the last 24 months for all RVAR CEDS localities.

Locality		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
County	Alleghany	4.7	4.7	4.3	5.4	9.4	9.6	7.9
	Botetourt	3.0	2.5	2.6	3.2	6.3	6.4	5.6
	Craig	3.9	3.4	3.7	4.0	7.2	7.8	7.6
	Roanoke County	3.0	2.5	2.5	3.2	5.8	6.3	5.5
City	Covington	5.6	7.0	5.8	6.8	10.3	11.1	8.8
	Roanoke	4.2	3.7	3.7	4.5	8.6	8.9	8.2
	Salem	3.2	2.9	2.9	3.6	6.3	7.0	6.0
Town of Clifton Forge		Included in Alleghany County's Rate						
Town of Vinton		Included in Roanoke County's Rate						
Virginia		3.2	2.9	3.2	5.2	6.8	6.9	6.6
United States		5.1	4.6	4.6	5.8	9.3	9.6	9.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012.

Several localities are experiencing higher unemployment levels than that of the Commonwealth including Alleghany County, Craig County, City of Covington, and the City of Roanoke. Except for the City of Covington, the 24 month unemployment rate for each locality is below the national average.

Table 8: Unemployment Rate: 24 Month Average					
Locality		November 2010	November 2011	November 2012	24 Month Average
County	Alleghany	9.4	7.0	6.0	7.7
	Botetourt	5.7	4.9	5.0	5.4
	Craig	6.7	6.7	6.7	7.1
	Roanoke	6.0	4.9	4.7	5.4
City	Covington	12.0	7.1	8.6	9.1
	Roanoke	8.4	7.4	6.8	7.8
	Salem	6.8	6.0	5.7	6.0
Town of Clifton Forge		Included in Alleghany County 's Rate			
Town of Vinton		Included in Roanoke County's Rate			
United States		9.8	8.7	7.4	8.6
Virginia		6.5	5.8	5.3	6.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2010-2012.

Business Trends

It is important to look at trends in terms of business growth and decline. Table 9 outlines the most current business establishment data available and illustrates overall growth in the total number of business establishments within the RVAR CEDs region. The number of businesses establishments grew by 6.1% in Roanoke County, representing the largest increase of all localities.

Table 9: Business Establishments (2007-2012)								
Locality		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 ¹	Change 2007-2012
County	Alleghany	313	321	323	311	314	321	2.6%
	Botetourt	780	786	782	782	779	792	1.5%
	Craig	77	89	88	83	79	75	-2.6%
	Roanoke	2,154	2,224	2,227	2,224	2,254	2,285	6.1%
City	Covington	286	280	273	267	267	270	-5.6%
	Roanoke	3,344	3,368	3,317	3,286	3,251	3,254	-2.7%
	Salem	1,023	1,046	1,036	1,028	1,007	1,009	-1.4%
Town of Clifton Forge		Included in Alleghany County Total						
Town of Vinton		Included in Roanoke County Total						
RVARC Region		7,977	8,114	8,046	7,981	7,951	8,006	0.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2007-2nd Qtr 2012.

1. Second Quarter 2012 data is preliminary.

Enplanements

Enplanements are the count of passengers boarding commercial air carriers. They provide insight into short run changes in economic activity. However, such data should be used with caution since airline scheduling and ticket prices obviously affect air travel. Air travel is considered to be highly elastic, meaning slight changes in price lead to sharp changes in demand. Table 10 shows annual enplanements at Roanoke Regional Airport.

Year	Enplanements	Change
2000	364,202	
2001	304,265	-16.46%
2002	298,606	-1.86%
2003	298,055	-0.18%
2004	306,896	2.97%
2005	326,202	6.29%
2006	326,214	0.00%
2007	348,634	6.87%
2008	315,293	-9.56%
2009	297,588	-5.62%
2010	316,478	6.35%
2011	320,961	1.42%

Source: Federal Aviation Administration, 2012.

Housing Overview

The recent recession was caused, at least in part, by the collapse of the housing market. Any examination of the recession's impact up on the RVAR CEDS region would be incomplete without analyzing information on home sales/value and foreclosures. Examining the percentage of those who own their own home vs. those who rent is also a useful economic indicator. Housing can serve as an important indicator of economic vitality in a region. Housing is also a key indicator of population growth. The supply of affordable housing is also increasingly important from a policy perspective in many areas, since it can affect labor force availability.

Unfortunately, the data set on homes sales is incomplete for the region. A significant number of home sales in the Alleghany Highlands are not tracked in any Multiple Listing Service and are not reflected in the Roanoke Valley or Virginia Association of Realtors database. Currently, comprehensive data are only available from the Roanoke Valley Association of Realtors, which includes the Counties of Botetourt, Bedford, Craig, Franklin, and Roanoke; along with the City of Roanoke and Salem. Nonetheless, these data can be used as an indicator for what is occurring throughout the region. This information is provided in Table 11 below.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Residential Units Sold	3,962	3,707	3,269	3,432	3,666
Volume Sold	\$792,147,173	\$704,274,576	\$637,546,496	\$608,472,570	\$667,408,682
Average Home Price	\$197,889	\$188,855	\$195,310	\$176,197	\$180,302

Source: Roanoke Valley Association of Realtors, 2012.

As previously mentioned, looking at the percentage of those who own their own home vs. those who rent is a useful economic indicator; these data are detailed in Table 12.

Locality		Total units	Occupied Units	Owner Occupied	Renter Occupied	Vacant Units
County	Alleghany	8,074	85%	66%	19%	15%
	Botetourt	14,562	90%	77%	13%	10%
	Craig	2,809	78%	62%	16%	22%
	Roanoke	40,016	94%	72%	22%	6%
City	Covington	3,067	86%	59%	27%	14%
	Roanoke	47,453	90%	49%	41%	10%
	Salem	10,832	93%	61%	32%	7%
Town of Clifton Forge		2,004	85%	52%	33%	15%
Town of Vinton		3,774	93%	56%	37%	7%
Virginia		3,364,939	91%	61%	30%	9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010.

Economic Structure/Industry Clusters

It is necessary to understand the nature, structure, and trends of the region's economy in order to determine its strengths and weaknesses. There are a number of data sources that will assist in analyzing the local economic structure of the region. Most importantly, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages database maintained by the Virginia Employment Commission has been collected and used to build a regional cluster database based on raw tax filings. The following section will seek to describe regional trends in the industry clusters for the entire RVARC CEDS region.

An outline of the region's top employers is provided below. It will assist with understanding the local economy and demonstrates that the majority of the region's largest employers are in the industries of government, healthcare, education, banking, and insurance.

1	Carilion Health Services
2	Veterans Affairs
3	Kroger
4	HCA Virginia Health System
5	Wal Mart
6	Wells Fargo Bank
7	City of Roanoke
8	County of Roanoke
9	Mead Westvaco
10	Roanoke City School Board

1	Carilion Health Services
2	Kroger
3	HCA Virginia Health System
4	Wal Mart
5	Wells Fargo Bank
6	Mead Westvaco
7	Allstate Insurance
8	Yokohama Tire Corporation
9	Advance Auto Parts
10	General Electric Company

The location quotient, provided in Table 15, is a useful tool for comparing a local economy to a larger comparison economy. A location quotient (LQ) value of 1 simply means that a local area or region has a similar proportion of a given industry as the comparison economy (an LQ of 1 indicates the region has 100% of the concentration of industry one would expect to see in any community in the comparison economy). Clusters with location quotient scores above 1 indicate above average concentration within a region's economy and scores below 1 indicate the industry has a less than average representation in the regional economy. Clusters with location quotient scores above 1.5 can be considered significantly concentrated (an LQ of 1.5 indicates the area has 150% of the concentration of industry one would expect to see in any community in the larger comparison economy). An above average concentration may imply a local competitive advantage.

Four clusters stand out as significantly concentrated in the RVARC CEDS Region including electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing; forest and wood products; motor vehicle manufacturing; and glass and ceramics.

Cluster	CEDS Cluster Employment	US Cluster Employment	Location Quotient
Advanced Manufacturing	5,612	6,249,380	0.83
Agribusiness, Food Processing and Technology	1,070	2,989,933	0.33
Apparel and Textiles	1,136	973,308	1.08
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation and Visitor Industries	3,477	4,952,251	0.65
Biomedical and Biotechnical Life Sciences	19,887	14,359,678	1.28
Business and Business Services	17,965	15,920,250	1.05
Chemicals and Chemical-Based Products	2,427	1,994,715	1.13
Computer and electronic product manufacturing subcluster	865	1,111,037	0.72
Construction Sector	3,653	2,433,594	1.39
Defense and Security	5,497	5,788,650	0.88
Education and Knowledge Creation	3,068	4,889,174	0.58
Electrical equip, appliance and component manufacturing subcluster	1,428	350,058	3.78
Energy (Fossil and Renewable)	5,215	6,088,889	0.79
Engineering, Design, and Testing Services	2,059	3,678,675	0.52
Fabricated metal product manufacturing subcluster	1,529	1,333,121	1.06
FIRE	6,777	6,829,653	0.92
Forest and Wood Products	3,270	1,330,447	2.28
Glass and Ceramics	429	265,592	1.50
Government and Public Administration Sector	6,266	7,799,270	0.74
Healthcare	21,818	15,734,054	1.28
Higher Education	1,379	3,225,503	0.40
Information Technology (services only)	3,230	2,725,856	1.10
Information Technology and Telecommunications	5,814	4,989,336	1.08
Machinery manufacturing subcluster	438	1,036,668	0.39
Medical Manufacturing and R&D	824	1,589,937	0.48
Mining	202	574,404	0.33
Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	2,679	1,403,891	1.77
Packaging	323	786,437	0.38
Primary metal manufacturing subcluster	526	374,971	1.30
Printing and Publishing	1,891	2,087,328	0.84
Retail Trade Sector	17,016	14,541,105	1.08
Transportation and Logistics	6,557	4,542,011	1.34
Transportation equipment manufacturing subcluster	1,549	1,477,313	0.97
Total	155,876	144,426,489	-

Sources: Virginia Employment Commission, US BEA ES202, First Quarter 2012.

It is important to note that industry clusters are significantly different from industry supersectors described above. Supersectors are large industry categories in which all industries sharing a common two-digit code from the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) are grouped. NAICS classifications are based on process. Firms that use similar production processes are grouped together. Codes can be up to 6-digits long and get progressively more specific with each additional digit from 2 to 6 digits. Therefore, the healthcare and education supersector (a two digit NAICS supersector) for instance would include industries engaged in providing educational services, such as public schools, post-secondary education and training institutions with each one having its own 5-6 digit NAICS code (in addition to healthcare related industries since the NAICS supersector data groups these two industries).

Clusters are, on the other hand, groupings of not only industries with similar processes but also key suppliers and other related industries from other industrial sectors that tend to locate in the same general proximity and gain certain advantages (shared workforce, knowledge transfer, etc) from doing so. The education and knowledge creation cluster, for instance, would include not only the 6 digit NAICS codes for the entire gamut of traditional education industries (from colleges and universities to training centers and educational suppliers) but also codes for a number of related industries in information and publishing including book, periodical, and newspaper publishers, internet publishing and broadcasting, news syndicates, and libraries.

It is also important to understand how industry concentrations have changed to understand both national and regional industry trends. This is accomplished through a shift-share analysis which seeks to disaggregate the growth of an industry into three contributing parts to determine whether growth in an industry is merely a reflection of regional economic growth, to determine if industry growth outpaces the growth of the national economy as a whole, and to determine if regional industry growth occurred at a rate faster than the rate of the same industry at the national level.

The column labeled proportional shift in Table 16 on the following page measures the relative advantage or disadvantage an industry has relative to overall economic growth. If an industry is growing faster than the overall economy, it is proportionally more likely to contribute to growth of the local area. The column labeled differential shift is the difference in the rate of growth or decline in a local industry relative to the rate of growth or decline in the same industry nationally. If, for instance, an industry is declining at the national level but is either declining less quickly or is growing locally, the differential shift will be positive and will suggest a possible competitive advantage. In short, the differential shift examines not only whether the industry is expanding or decreasing but how quickly the industry is growing or contracting compared to the national economy.

Table 16: Shift-Share Analysis

Cluster	RVARC CEDS Region				United States				Differential Shift
	2011 Employment	2012 Employment	% Change (growth or decline)	2011 Employment	2012 Employment	% Change (growth or decline)	Proportional Shift		
Advanced Manufacturing	5,298	5,612	5.9%	6,095,064	6,249,380	2.5%	4.0%	3.4%	
Agribusiness, Food Processing and Technology	1,053	1,070	1.6%	2,914,445	2,989,933	2.6%	-0.3%	-1.0%	
Apparel and Textiles	1,114	1,136	2.0%	975,891	973,308	-0.3%	0.0%	2.2%	
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation and Visitor Industries	3,463	3,477	0.4%	4,840,028	4,952,251	2.3%	-1.5%	-1.9%	
Biomedical and Biotechnical Life Sciences	18,929	19,887	5.1%	14,152,876	14,359,678	1.5%	3.1%	3.6%	
Business and Business Services	18,010	17,965	-0.2%	15,552,374	15,920,250	2.4%	-2.2%	-2.6%	
Chemicals and Chemical-Based Products	2,475	2,427	-1.9%	1,978,432	1,994,715	0.8%	-3.9%	-2.8%	
Computer and electronic product manufacturing subcluster	832	865	4.0%	1,111,402	1,111,037	0.0%	2.0%	4.0%	
Construction Sector	3,741	3,653	-2.4%	2,386,253	2,433,594	2.0%	-4.3%	-4.3%	
Defense and Security	5,497	5,497	0.0%	5,680,464	5,788,650	1.9%	-1.9%	-1.9%	
Education and Knowledge Creation	3,092	3,068	-0.8%	4,855,431	4,889,174	0.7%	-2.7%	-1.5%	
Electrical equip, appliance and component manufacturing subcluster	1,405	1,428	1.6%	340,876	350,058	2.7%	-0.3%	-1.1%	
Energy (Fossil and Renewable)	5,209	5,215	0.1%	5,860,963	6,088,889	3.9%	-1.8%	-3.8%	
Engineering, Design, and Testing Services	1,963	2,059	4.9%	3,538,089	3,678,675	4.0%	3.0%	0.9%	
Fabricated metal product manufacturing subcluster	1,461	1,529	4.7%	1,264,514	1,333,121	5.4%	2.7%	-0.8%	
FIRE	6,726	6,777	0.8%	6,744,152	6,829,653	1.3%	-1.2%	-0.5%	
Forest and Wood Products	3,274	3,270	-0.1%	1,342,505	1,330,447	-0.9%	-2.0%	0.8%	
Glass and Ceramics	451	429	-4.9%	259,845	265,592	2.2%	-6.8%	-7.1%	
Government and Public Administration Sector	6,140	6,266	2.1%	7,903,404	7,799,270	-1.3%	0.1%	3.4%	
Healthcare	21,209	21,818	2.9%	15,463,284	15,734,054	1.8%	0.9%	1.1%	
Higher Education	1,392	1,379	-0.9%	3,195,878	3,225,503	0.9%	-2.9%	-1.9%	
Information Technology (services only)	3,380	3,230	-4.4%	2,619,586	2,725,856	4.1%	-6.4%	-8.5%	
Information Technology and Telecommunications	5,794	5,814	0.3%	4,856,700	4,989,336	2.7%	-1.6%	-2.4%	
Machinery manufacturing subcluster	444	438	-1.4%	982,486	1,036,668	5.5%	-3.3%	-6.9%	
Medical Manufacturing and R&D	705	824	16.9%	1,587,742	1,589,937	0.1%	15.0%	16.7%	
Mining	259	202	-22.0%	495,938	574,404	15.8%	-23.9%	-37.8%	
Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	2,341	2,679	14.4%	1,332,985	1,403,891	5.3%	12.5%	9.1%	
Packaging	346	323	-6.6%	772,921	786,437	1.7%	-8.6%	-8.4%	
Primary metal manufacturing subcluster	528	526	-0.4%	357,099	374,971	5.0%	-2.3%	-5.4%	
Printing and Publishing	1,926	1,891	-1.8%	2,092,910	2,087,328	-0.3%	-3.7%	-1.6%	
Retail Trade Sector	16,737	17,016	1.7%	14,317,255	14,541,105	1.6%	-0.3%	0.1%	
Transportation and Logistics	6,661	6,557	-1.6%	4,428,401	4,542,011	2.6%	-3.5%	-4.1%	
Transportation equipment manufacturing subcluster	1,160	1,549	33.5%	1,398,218	1,477,313	5.7%	31.6%	27.9%	
Total	153,015	155,876	1.9%	141,698,411	144,426,489	1.9%			

Sources: Virginia Employment Commission, US BEA ES202, First Quarters 2012, 2011

EDA Eligibility

Per capita income and unemployment figures are used to determine current EDA assistance eligibility. Any locality within a CEDS region with a per capita income of 80% or less than the national per capita income is eligible for EDA investment assistance. In addition, a CEDS locality with 24 month average unemployment rate at least 1 percentage point higher than the national 24 month rate is also eligible. Table 17 provides the most recent 24 month average unemployment rate and per capita income for each locality.

The localities of Alleghany County, the City of Covington and Town of Clifton Forge are eligible as of February 2013 for EDA assistance based on per capita income. None of the RVAR CEDS localities currently meet the 24 month average unemployment threshold. However, it is important to regularly reevaluate and monitor unemployment and per capita income data as the economic situation throughout the region is continually evolving.

Other localities may be eligible for other forms of investment assistance depending upon special impacts including outmigration, job losses, sudden and severe economic dislocation, loss of major local employers, and significant loss of manufacturing jobs along with other unfortunate economic factors. Eligibility for other localities will be determined by EDA staff upon submission of an application for investment assistance.

Locality		Per Capita Income		24 Month Unemployment Rate
		PCI	% of US	
County	Alleghany	\$22,444	80%	7.7
	Botetourt	\$30,293	109%	5.4
	Craig	\$25,046	90%	7.1
	Roanoke	\$31,617	113%	5.4
City	Covington	\$21,474	77%	9.1
	Roanoke	\$23,023	82%	7.8
	Salem	\$27,143	97%	6.0
Town of Vinton		\$23,794	85%	Unavailable
Clifton Forge		\$21,230	76%	Unavailable
United States		\$27,915	100%	8.6

Source: US Census Bureau, 2007-2011, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012.

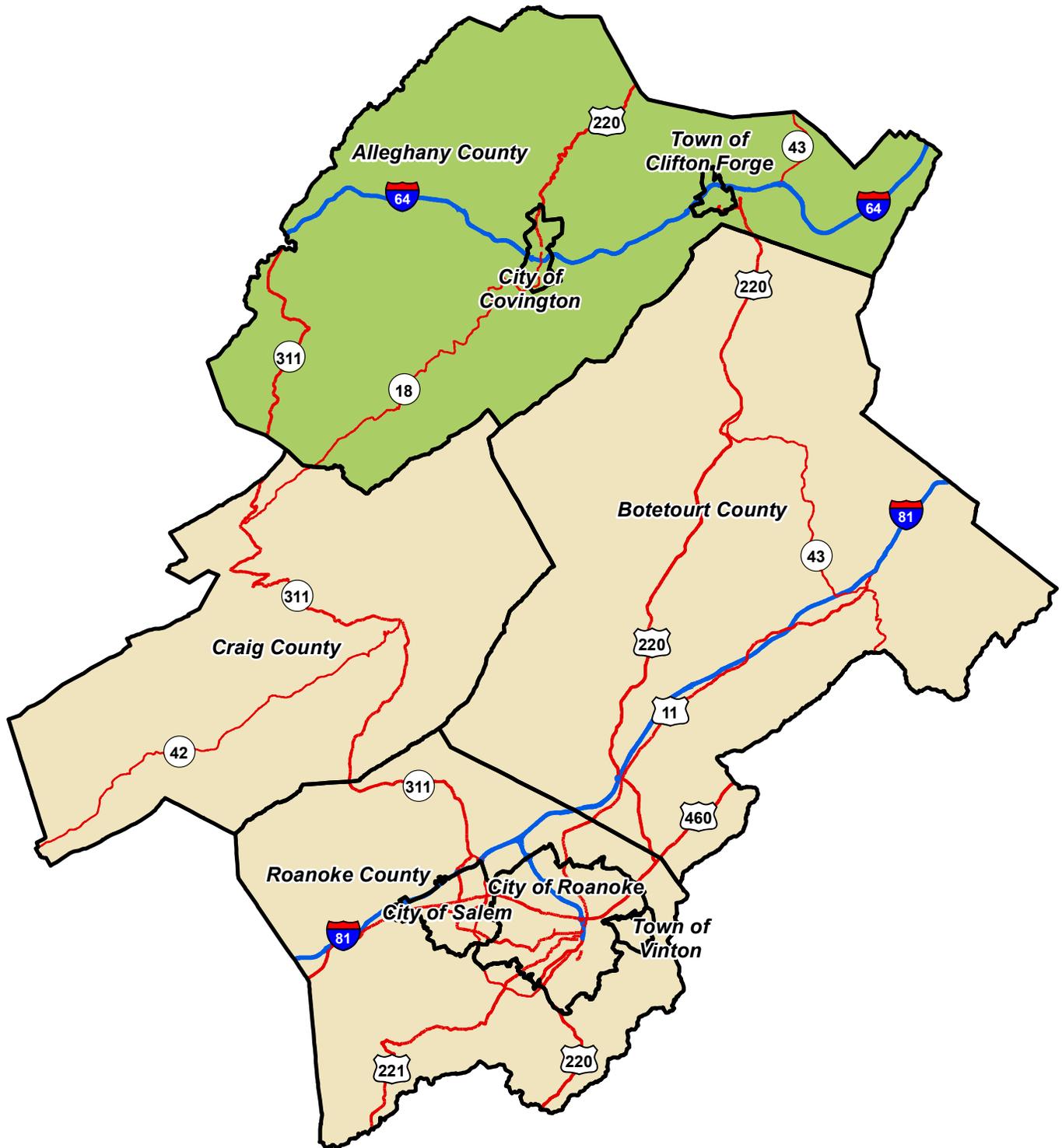
In addition to locality-wide per capita income rates, Census Tract level data may also be used to determine eligibility for funding by EDA. Table 18 lists the eligible Census Tracts in the region that meet the 80% or lower than the U.S. per capita income criteria.

Table 18: Eligible Census Tracts based on the 80 Percent or Less of the U.S. Per Capita Income Criteria			
Locality	Tract Number	Per Capita Income	Percent of US PCI
Alleghany County	51005070100	20,372	73.0
Alleghany County	51005080100	21,301	76.3
Alleghany County	51005080202	22,309	79.9
Alleghany County	51005080302	20,529	73.5
Roanoke County	51161031000	22,330	80.0
Roanoke County	51161031101	22,252	79.7
City of Covington	51580060100	20,839	74.7
City of Covington	51580060200	22,152	79.4
City of Roanoke	51770000100	18,679	66.9
City of Roanoke	51770000601	22,254	79.7
City of Roanoke	51770000900	11,625	41.6
City of Roanoke	51770001000	11,193	40.1
City of Roanoke	51770001100	21,208	76.0
City of Roanoke	51770002200	20,574	73.7
City of Roanoke	51770002300	19,014	68.1
City of Roanoke	51770002400	16,710	59.9
City of Roanoke	51770002500	11,094	39.7
City of Roanoke	51770002600	12,693	45.5
City of Roanoke	51770002700	15,472	55.4
City of Roanoke	51770002800	21,604	77.4
City of Salem	51775010300	21,213	76.0

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2007-2011.

Map 2: Percent of US Per Capita Income by Locality

American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2007-2011
Per Capita Income must be 80% or less than the National Average



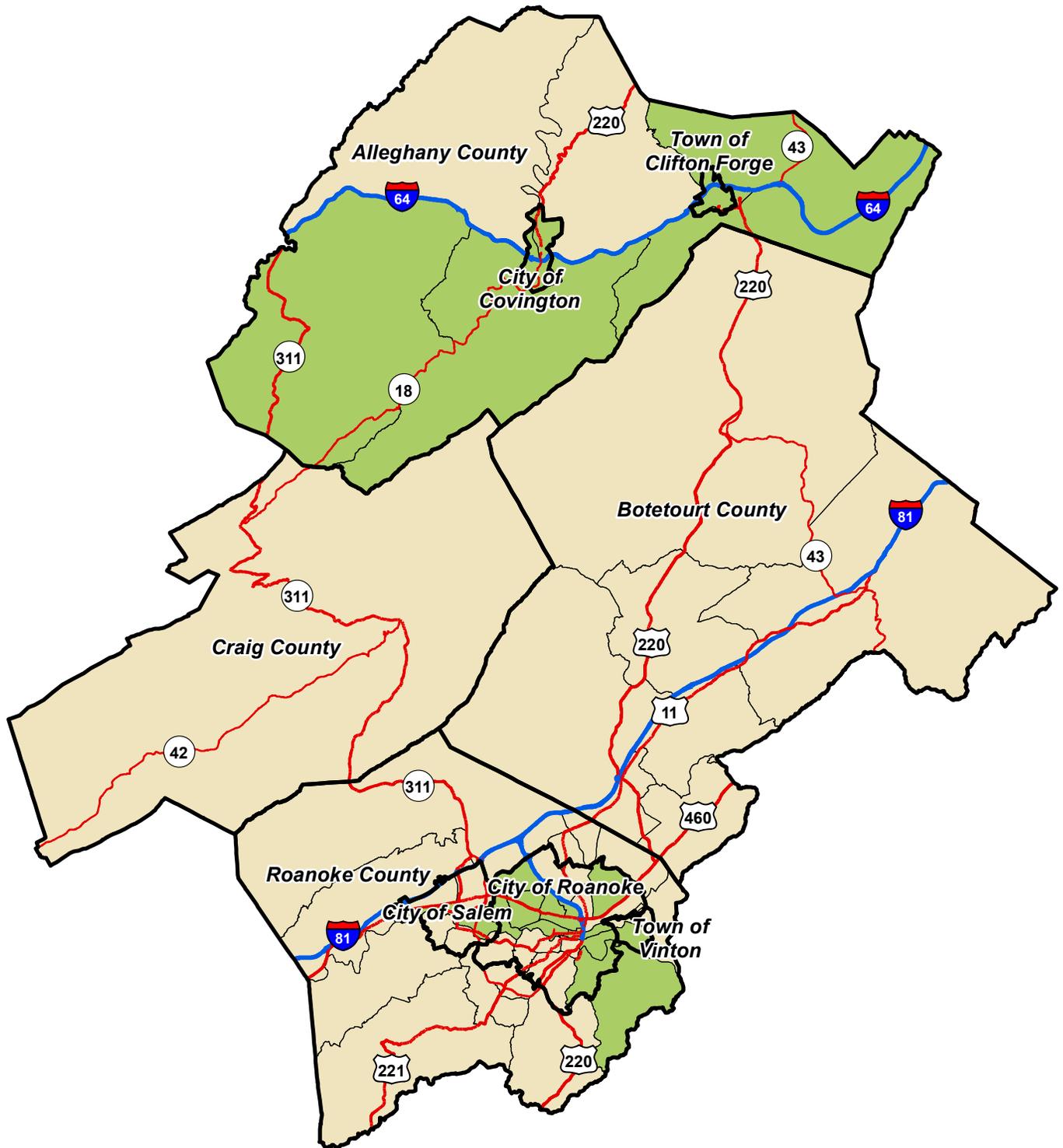
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

Legend

- Eligible
- Not Eligible

Map 3: Percent of US Per Capita Income by Census Tract

American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2007-2011
Per Capita Income must be 80% or less than the National Average



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

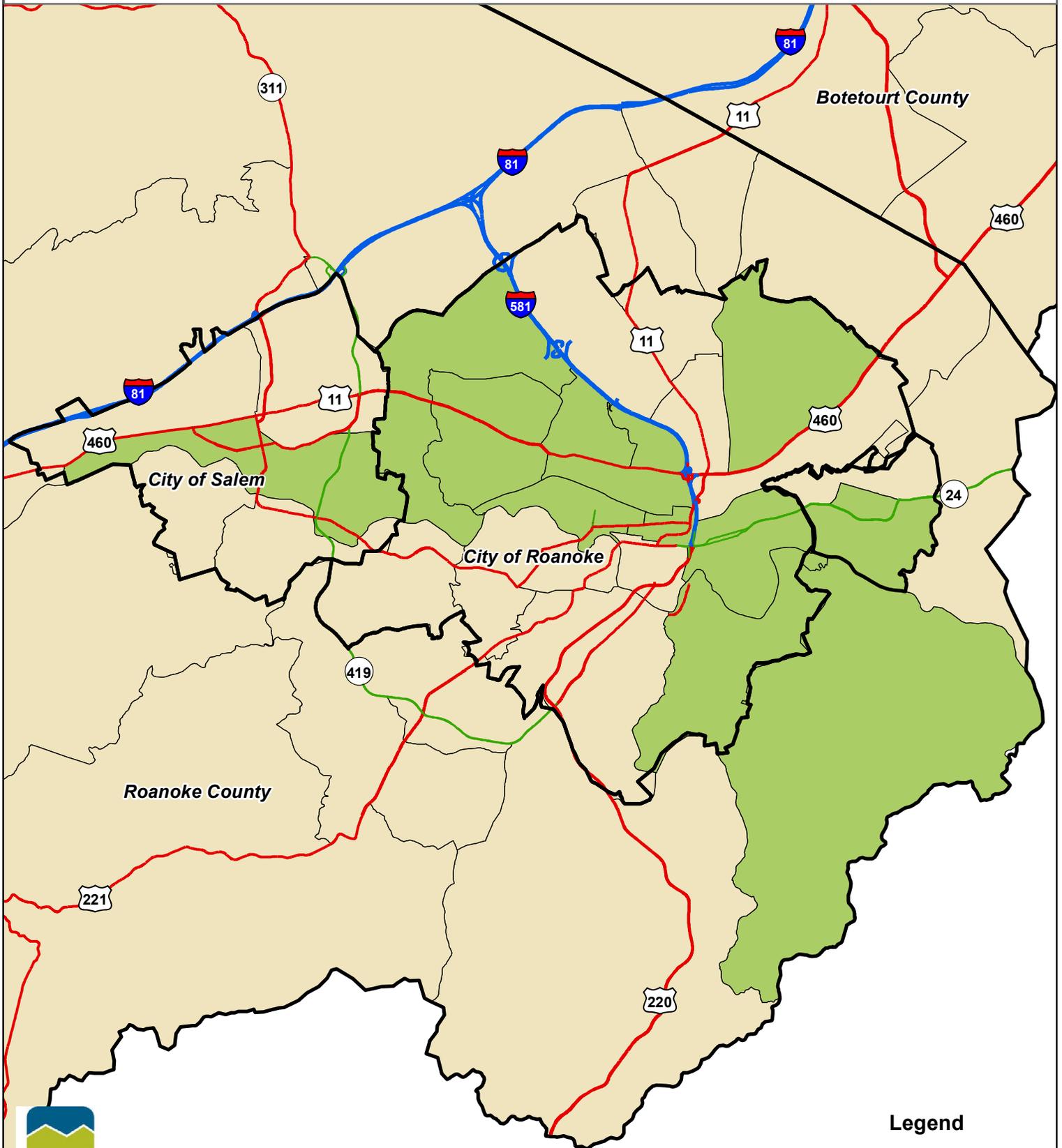
Source: Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, 2013.

Map 4: Percent of US Per Capita Income by Census Tract

Urban Area

American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2007-2011

Per Capita Income must be 80% or less than the National Average



Legend

Census Tracts

- Eligible
- Not Eligible



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission



Section 3: Vision, Goals, and Objectives



Vision Statement

The Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region will be recognized for its outstanding outdoor amenities, quality of life, and higher wage employment opportunities. The region will grow and prosper while preserving its natural beauty and resources. Businesses and individuals of all ages will be attracted to the region because of its accessibility, affordability, commitment to lifelong learning, vibrant arts and culture, diversity, and hospitality.

Goals and Objectives

1. Encourage regional economic vitality through an increasingly diverse base of businesses including entrepreneurial startups and large employers.
 - 1.1 Recruit businesses and industries in high-wage industry clusters.
 - 1.2 Promote small and entrepreneurial businesses.
 - 1.3 Retain and expand existing businesses in the region.

2. Develop and maintain a skilled workforce ready to meet the challenges presented by the creative economy.
 - 2.1 Improve literacy and graduation rates.
 - 2.2 Promote cooperation between local higher education institutions and local public school districts to improve K-12 educational quality.
 - 2.3 Promote career and technical education to address the growing needs of business.
 - 2.4 Promote affordable lifelong education.
 - 2.5 Pursue the development of additional specialized training, educational programs as appropriate to further develop higher wage industry clusters.
 - 2.6 Actively attract and retain young professionals to work in the region.

3. Ensure the region has adequate infrastructure in place to facilitate the growth of higher-wage industry clusters and to ensure connectivity with regions nationally and globally.

- 3.1 Pursue development of appropriate commercial, industrial, and research-oriented parks and centers to facilitate growth of appropriate industry clusters.
 - 3.2 Expand information technology infrastructure and telecommunications systems.
 - 3.3 Pursue the maintenance and expansion of traditional infrastructure including water, sewer, natural gas lines, and transportation infrastructure in areas where such investments will improve economic development potential.
 - 3.4 Promote innovative transit programs and expansion of existing transit services in the region where such investments will improve economic development potential.
 - 3.5 Pursue development and/or improvement of 'quality of life infrastructure' including, for instance, arts and cultural amenities, outdoor amenities, and other related improvements.
4. Project a positive identity for the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region.
 - 4.1 Pursue regional marketing initiatives to promote the region to select markets including site selection professionals and individuals.
 - 4.2 Engage the public and media to inform and educate residents on the economic development initiatives being pursued in the region.
 - 4.3 Seek to improve intergovernmental cooperation and collaboration as well as cooperation and collaboration between government and the private sector and other important stakeholders to enhance regional economic development.
5. Seek to maintain and promote the region's natural beauty as well as its cultural amenities, and seek sustainable growth opportunities.
 - 5.1 Invest in appropriate natural and outdoor amenities to simultaneously preserve open space and outdoor quality while further promoting the region as a destination for outdoor activities.

- 5.2 Promote existing outdoor amenities (greenway networks, hiking trails, lakes, State and National Park lands, and the National Forest) to residents and external markets.
 - 5.3 Promote the region's arts and cultural amenities.
 - 5.4 Take necessary steps to ensure ongoing improvement and/or maintenance of healthy air and water quantity and quality.
6. Seek to reuse existing underutilized commercial and industrial properties and target them for redevelopment.
- 6.1 Direct investment to unused or underused properties and reduce the need for greenfield development.
 - 6.2 Invest in infrastructure to increase the intensity of use in already developed areas.
 - 6.3 Pursue revitalization of blighted areas.
 - 6.4 Pursue redevelopment of brownfields and grayfields where appropriate and feasible.
7. Seek to ensure that the region offers a strong and diverse mix of housing opportunities.
- 7.1 Pursue the rehabilitation and preservation of existing housing stock.
 - 7.2 Expand housing opportunities for all income levels.
 - 7.3 Encourage the development of quality, affordable housing for workers entering the job market.
 - 7.4 Encourage the development of housing for the elderly.
 - 7.5 Encourage the development of market-rate housing.
 - 7.6 Encourage the development of a second-home housing market.



Section 4: Prioritization Criteria and Ranking Process



Project Prioritization Methodology

Development of the FY 2013 Annual Project Package was a collaborative effort involving CEDS Committee members, localities, and other organizations responsible for project submission and coordination, and the RVARC staff. Staff solicited projects for inclusion in the strategy from Committee Members, localities, and other organizations known to have active economic and/or community development projects in the region. These entities were sent a project information sheet and encouraged to submit information on projects for inclusion in the strategy.

Changes to the project prioritization method have been made over the years to reflect changing goals of the CEDS Committee and the localities that make up the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Region. The prioritization criteria were reevaluated in FY 2011. The goal was to simplify the process while ensuring that all projects continue to be assessed and prioritized objectively. Key changes included reducing the total number of criterion from 12 to 10 and creating a 100 point scale.

Changes made to the process included disaggregating all projects into three Tiers based on project and locality eligibility as of December 2011 when the projects were ranked by the Ranking Subcommittee using a system of tier ranking of 1, 2 and 3 with tier 1 projects being short term projects in eligible localities

The ranking process was also significantly altered in 2013 to make project organization more effective and intuitive. Previously, all projects were included in the same list regardless of their ease of implementation or eligibility. The CEDS also focused primarily on the top ten projects based on the priority score they received during the prioritization/ranking process. In 2013 the CEDS Committee decided to create a priority list of projects which it, as well as the member governments, would focus on during the planning period. All other projects were moved to a long-term project listing. It is felt that this will make the CEDS a more results oriented document and make better use of local staff time and funding.

The Priority Project list is composed of projects that are of a short timeframe, have identified possible sources of funding, and localities are actively pursuing. These projects will have a more immediate impact on the economy of the region than those listed on the Long-Term Projects listing. The Long-Term Project list documents projects that localities wish to undertake, but at this time the projects are lacking one or more key components such as funding source, political support or final design.



Section 5: Annual Project Package



Annual Project Package

The FY 2013 project package was recommended by the CEDS Committee in its meeting held on April 18, 2013. The project package is presented on the following pages. More detailed information about the project package can be found in the appendix.

Table 19: Priority Projects	
CEDS Goal and Objective	Description
3.3	Alleghany Regional Commerce Center Improvements (includes natural gas line)
3.3	Clifton Forge Business Park access road
3.2, 3.3"	Alleghany Highlands Telecommunications Infrastructure (Crows - Hematite)
1.2	Clifton Forge Business Incubator
3.3	Clifton Forge Railyard Redevelopment
3.2, 3.3	Roanoke Valley Broadband Development
3.1, 3.3	Greenfield- East Park Water Systems Connection
3.1, 3.3	Greenfield Treatment/Additional Source Development
1.2	Craig County New Business Incubator
1.1, 3.1, 3.3	Roanoke Center for Industry and Technology Blue Hills Dr. Extension
3.3	Roanoke Valley Stormwater Improvements
3.2	Vinton Downtown Broadband Infrastructure Strategy
1.2	Town of Vinton Small Business Incubator
5.1	Upper James River Water Trail - Phase II
3.5	Roanoke River Greenway Completion
3.3	Clifton Forge Water Plant Expansion
3.3	Clifton Forge Water and Sewer Infrastructure Upgrades
3.4	New Clifton Forge Amtrak Station
3.5, 6.3	Masonic Theater Renovation
3.5, 6.2, 6.3"	Clifton Forge Downtown Revitalization
3.5, 6.2, 6.3"	Covington Downtown Revitalization
2	Craig County Viticulture Initiative
3.4, 3.5, 4.3	Construction of Amtrak Passenger Rail Station (City of Roanoke)
1.1, 2.3, 2.5, 2.7, 3.3, 5.5	VT Earthworks at Catawba Sustainability Center
1.2	Regional Entrepreneurial Seed Money and Advocacy Program
1.2	RVARC Revolving Loan Fund
4.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3	Virginia Rail Heritage Area
2	Virginia Western Community College Enhance Regional Career Coach Program (6 additional coaches)

Table 20: Long-Term Projects	
CEDS Goal and Objective	Description
6	Mountain View/Norwich Brownfield Redevelopment
3.5, 5.1	Jackson River Scenic Trail Phase IV
3.3	Selma to Low Moor Water System Upgrade
3.3	Innovation Park
2.6, 3.1, 3.5, 5.3	Civic Center Renovation Projects
3.5, 4.3	Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center Parking Structure
2.6, 3.3, 3.5	Colonial Avenue Streetscape Enhancements
5.4	Conservation incentives for businesses and individuals
4.1, 4.2	Regional Public Relations Function and Centralized Information Hub
5.1, 1.1	Business Incentive Fund for Businesses that Support Outdoor Recreation
1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 3.3	Roanoke Regional Airport, Expanded Air Service and Improvements Study
5.1	Encourage Development and Expansion of Bikeways
5.1	Encourage Development of a Youth Hostel
6.1, 6.2, 6.4	Vinton Industrial Park Former Landfill Lot Feasibility Analysis
3.3	Town of Vinton Sewer Upgrades (Reduce I&I)
3.3	Town of Vinton Downtown Stormwater Mitigation
3.3	Town of Vinton Historic Street Lighting
4.1	Town of Vinton Real Estate Database



Section 6: Action Plan, Accomplishments, Performance Measures



CEDS Action Plan

The 2013 annual project package included in this CEDS Strategy document includes a large set of strategies and projects selected by the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional CEDS Committee and recommended by the Committee’s large number of regional partners and by its local governments.

Accomplishments

The following is a discussion of accomplishments made in FY 2012. The localities represented in the CEDS process remain committed to the process and to making smart investments that will stimulate economic growth throughout the region. The committee, local governments, and local partners have been extremely busy in the last year on a number of construction and non-construction projects from the previous CEDS project listing.

The following projects are either complete or substantially complete:

- Alleghany Highlands – Jackson River Trail Phase I, II and III.
- Alleghany Highlands – Virginia’s Western Highlands Marketing project
- Alleghany Highlands – Low Moor Data Security Center site improvements
- Alleghany Highlands - Alleghany Highlands Visitor Center
- Botetourt County, Roanoke County, City of Roanoke, City of Salem,– Broadband/Fiber Feasibility Analysis for the Roanoke Valley
- Covington and Clifton Forge - Downtown Revitalization Planning
- City of Covington - Alleghany Highlands Biomass Energy Initiative
- City of Covington - Downtown Fiber Internet Infrastructure Planning
- Roanoke Valley – Housing Study
- Botetourt Greenfield-Vista Park Water Systems
- Botetourt Tinker Creek Interceptor Improvements
- Clifton Forge Art School
- Clifton Forge Wastewater Treatment Plant Pump Station
- Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau Marketing Initiative
- Salem Apperson Drive Stormwater Improvements
- TAP Keswick Street Housing Project

Metrics/Performance Measures

The Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy will be a living document, updated and monitored on an ongoing basis by the RVAR CEDS Strategy Committee. The RVAR CEDS Committee will produce an annual report to be reviewed by the Planning Organization board (board of the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission) and submitted every year to the Philadelphia Region Office of the US Economic Development Administration detailing programmatic success, implementation efforts, and with an updated list of priority projects each year. It is clear that the CEDS Committee needs a series of process metrics with which it can evaluate the effectiveness of the overall CEDS process in meeting the goals set for the CEDS process and in matching the overarching principles of the CEDS planning process as designed by the US Economic Development Administration and as laid out in the most recent final rule.

The metrics as set forth in this section of the report will be utilized by staff and the Committee in evaluating program success. These metrics will be compiled each year and included in the Annual Report to be submitted to the US EDA.

The CEDS process is designed to be a collaborative process involving traditional public sector economic development agencies, local governments, higher education, nonprofits, chambers of commerce, and groups representing labor and minority concerns, and private sector businesses and individuals. The following metrics measure the inclusiveness of the process, participation, and other general parameters related to the process.

1. Include a discussion of current CEDS Committee structure and whether federal regulations pertaining to EDA-funded CEDS processes and make-up of the Strategy Committee (13 CFR 303.6) are being fulfilled.

The RVAR CEDS Committee meets all relevant EDA regulation regarding its composition and process. The private sector and representatives of elected bodies, economic development, workforce development, higher education, labor, and minority groups all have voting seats on the committee. Additionally, other stakeholders from local economic development office and utility companies are invited to CEDS committee meeting on a regular basis. Meetings are also open to the public and dates and locations are published on the CEDS meeting calendar and the RVAR meeting calendars online

2. Determine how many economic development organizations, business development organizations, higher educational organizations and localities are represented on the RVAR CEDS Committee.

Criteria: Organizations/localities represented on the CEDS Strategy Committee

- A. Fewer than 8 (Needs Improvement)
- B. 8 to 12 (Good)
- C. More than 12 (Excellent)

Currently, there are 17 different localities and organizations represented on the CEDS Committee. This number does not include each of the private businesses represented as each private sector member is counted as an official representative of the government which appointed them.

3. Take efforts to ensure that all eligible applicants are aware of the CEDS process and that a wide range of community organizations are represented in the project package.

Criteria: Organizations/localities represented as 'responsible agencies' on the Project Package.

- A. Fewer than 10 (Needs Improvement)
- B. 10 – 20 (Good)
- C. More than 20 (Excellent)

Project submissions have been received from a variety of sources throughout the CEDS process. Currently, the project package includes projects from 19 different localities and organizations.

4. Ensure that the collaborative planning process leads to projects that are collaborative in nature involving a wide number of partners in the project development process.

Criteria: Organizations/localities represented as 'partners' on the Project Package.

- A. Fewer than 10 (Needs Improvement)
- B. 10 – 20 (Good)
- C. More than 20 (Excellent)

The projects recommended in the CEDS are typically large and require the time and resources of numerous partners to implement. All organizations and localities will work collaboratively to implement projects.

5. Ensure that the RVAR CEDS is recommending projects that will lead to direct increases in employment and/or retention of existing jobs.

Criteria: Number of new jobs and/or existing jobs expected to be created or retained as a result of implementation of the CEDS vital projects.

- A. Fewer than 300 (Needs Improvement)
- B. 301 to 600 (Good)
- C. More than 600 (Excellent)

Several of the projects will create jobs. However, more work needs to be done to accurately forecast increases in employment.

6. Ensure that the RVAR CEDS is recommending projects that will lead to investment from the private sector.

Criteria: Number of projects in the priority list that have private funding committed.

- A. No Projects with Private Funds Committed (Needs Improvement)
- B. 1-2 Projects with Private Funds Committed (Good)
- C. More than 2 Projects with Private Funds Committed (Excellent)

As was mentioned in the initial CEDS document, this metric is the most difficult to meet and track. The majority of Tier 1 projects are still under development. Most have not been financially structured and exact funding sources have not yet been determined. There are no current private funds committed to any vital projects. This is likely to change as the projects gain momentum.



Appendix I: RVAR CEDS Committee and RVARC Board



Roanoke Valley — Alleghany Regional CEDS Strategy Committee Membership

Chairman - Mr. Ken Lanford, Lanford Brothers Co.

Vice-Chair - Mr. Mark Taylor, Mead Westvaco Corporation

Elected Officials

Alleghany County
The Honorable Suzanne Adcock

Botetourt County
The Honorable Terry Austin

City of Covington
Vacant

Town of Clifton Forge
The Honorable Robert Johnson

Craig County
Vacant

City of Roanoke
The Honorable Raphael “Ray”
Ferris

Roanoke County
The Honorable Ed Elswick

City of Salem
The Honorable Randy Foley

Town of Vinton
Vacant

Technical Advisors

Mr. John Strutner
Alleghany County Administrator

Mr. David Moorman
Botetourt County Deputy
Administrator

Mr. J.B. Broughman
Covington City Manager

Ms. Darlene Burcham
Clifton Forge Town Manager

Mr. Richard Flora
Craig County Administrator

Mr. Chris Morrill
Roanoke City Manager

Ms. Jill Loope
Roanoke County Economic Development

Mr. Kevin Boggess
Salem City Manager

Mr. Chris Lawrence
Vinton Town Manager

Mr. David Kleppinger
AHEDC Executive Director

Stakeholder Organizations

Mr. Jim Poythress
Virginia Western Community College

Ms. Beth Doughty
Roanoke Regional Partnership

Ms. Brenda Walker
NAACP

President Michael Maxey
Roanoke College

Ms. Teresa Hammond
Alleghany Highlands Chamber of
Commerce & Tourism

Ms. Doloris E. Vest
Western VA Workforce
Development Board

Ms. Joyce Waugh
Roanoke Regional Chamber of
Commerce

Mr. Chuck Simpson
Communications Workers of
America

Private Sector/Institutional/Other

Alleghany County

Mr. Mark Taylor, Mead Westvaco Corporation
Mr. Kevin Persinger, Sonabank

City of Covington

Mr. Mark Stockwell, Mead Westvaco Corporation
Ms. Anne Stanley, First National Bank

Craig County

Private Sector, Vacant
Private Sector, Vacant

Roanoke County

Mr. Rob Erdman, Synchrony Inc.
Ms. Rebecca L. Walter, Walter Chiropractic

Town of Vinton

Mr. Hal Mabe, Fox 21/27 CW5
Ms. Stephanie Brown, Southern Property Real Estate

Botetourt County

Mr. Hunter Young, Civil
Consulting Group, P.C.
Mr. Ken Lanford, Lanford
Brothers Co.

Town of Clifton Forge

Mr. Carl Brinkley, Racey & Dean
Ms. Ione Callender, First Citizens
Bank

City of Roanoke

Dr. Rupert Cutler, Civic Leader
Ms. Terri Workman, VT School of
Medicine

City of Salem

Mr. Steve Mullins, RealStar
Mr. David Preston, Country
Cookin'

ROANOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

ALLEGHANY COUNTY

+ The Honorable Carolyn Barnette
Alleghany County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 237
Clifton Forge, VA 24422

+ The Honorable Shannon P. Cox
Alleghany County Board of Supervisors
8507 Potts Creek Road
Covington, VA 24426

John Strutner
Alleghany County Administrator
9212 Winterberry Avenue, Suite C
Covington, VA 24426

BOTETOURT COUNTY

+ The Honorable Stephen P. Clinton
Botetourt County Board of Supervisors
171 Aspen Drive
Daleville, VA 24083

Erin Henderson
57 Wyndale Crossing
Daleville, VA 24083

+ The Honorable Billy Martin, Sr., *Chairman*
Botetourt County Board of Supervisors
426 Mountain Pass Road
Blue Ridge, VA 24064

Ned C. McElwaine
P.O. Box 37
Blue Ridge, VA 24064

CRAIG COUNTY

+ The Honorable Martha Murphy
Craig County Board of Supervisors
827 Cumberland Gap Road
New Castle, VA 24127

Richard C. Flora
Craig County Administrator
P.O. Box 308
New Castle, VA 24127

FRANKLIN COUNTY

+ The Honorable Bob Camicia
Franklin County Board of Supervisors
143 Charlotte Road
Hardy, VA 24101

Frank Chrzanowski, Vice President/Branch Mgr.
HomeTown Bank – Westlake Branch
13400 Booker T. Washington Highway
Moneta, VA 24121

+ The Honorable Ronnie Thompson
Franklin County Board of Supervisors
1629 Deepwoods Road
Hardy, VA 24101

+ The Honorable Charles Wagner
Franklin County Board of Supervisors
330 Riverview Street
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

Christopher Whitlow
Asst. Franklin County Administrator
1255 Franklin Street, Ste. 112
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

+ Denotes Elected Official

ROANOKE COUNTY

Clay Goodman, III
Roanoke County Administrator
P.O. Box 29800
Roanoke, VA 24018

+ The Honorable Kevin Hutchins
Treasurer, County of Roanoke
P.O. Box 21009
Roanoke, VA 24018

Dean Martin, *Treasurer*
5335 Black Bear Lane
Roanoke, VA 24014

+ The Honorable Ed Elswick
Roanoke County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 29800
Roanoke, VA 24018

+ The Honorable Charlotte Moore
Roanoke County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 29800
Roanoke, VA 24018

J. Lee E. Osborne
Woods Rogers PLC
10 S. Jefferson Street, Suite 1400
Roanoke, VA 24011

CITY OF COVINGTON

J. B. Broughman
Covington City Manager
333 W. Locust Street
Covington, VA 24426

+ The Honorable Bill Zimmerman
Covington City Council
308 N. Lexington Avenue
Covington, VA 24426

CITY OF ROANOKE

+ The Honorable Bill Bestpitch
Roanoke City Council
215 Church Ave., SW, Room 456
Roanoke, VA 24011

+ The Honorable David A. Bowers
Mayor, City of Roanoke
215 Church Avenue, SW, Room 452
Roanoke, VA 24011

James M. Bullington
3230 Orchard Hill Road
Roanoke, VA 24018

+ The Honorable Ray Ferris
Roanoke City Council
215 Church Ave., SW, Room 456
Roanoke, VA 24011

Chris Morrill
Roanoke City Manager
215 Church Avenue, SW, Room 364
Roanoke, VA 24011

Braxton Naff
2131 Deyerle Road, SW
Roanoke, VA 24018

CITY OF SALEM

+ The Honorable Lisa Garst
Salem City Council
P.O. Box 869
Salem, VA 24153

+ The Honorable Jane Johnson, *Vice Chair*
Salem City Council
P.O. Box 869
Salem, VA 24153

Melinda Payne
Director, Salem Planning & Development
P.O. Box 869
Salem, VA 24153

TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE

Darlene Burcham
Clifton Forge Town Manager
P.O. Box 631
Clifton Forge, VA 24422

- + The Honorable Johnette Roberts
Clifton Forge Town Council
118 First Street
Clifton Forge, VA 24422

TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNT

- + The Honorable Bobby Cundiff
Rocky Mount Town Council
65 Mountain View Drive
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

James Ervin
Rocky Mount Town Manager
345 Donald Avenue
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

TOWN OF VINTON

- + The Honorable Brad Grose
Mayor, Town of Vinton
407 Aragona Drive
Vinton, VA 24179

Chris Lawrence
Vinton Town Manager
311 S. Pollard Street
Vinton, VA 24179

LIAISON MEMBERS (Non-Voting)

Beth Doughty, Executive Director
Roanoke Regional Partnership
111 Franklin Plaza, Suite 333
Roanoke, VA 24011

Teresa Hammond, Executive Director
Alleghany Highlands Chamber of Commerce
110 Mall Road
Covington, VA 24426

Landon Howard, Executive Director
Roanoke Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau
101 Shenandoah Avenue, NE
Roanoke, VA 24016

Debbie Kavitz, Executive Director
Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 832
Salem, VA 24153

Dr. Robert H. Sandel, President
Virginia Western Community College
P.O. Box 14007
Roanoke, VA 24038

VACANCY
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
P.O. Box 1000
Clifton Forge, VA 24422

Doloris E. Vest, WIB Coordinator
Western Virginia Workforce Development Board
108 N. Jefferson Street, Suite 809
Roanoke, VA 24016

Joyce Waugh, President
Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce
210 S. Jefferson Street
Roanoke, VA 24011-1702



Appendix II: Meeting Summaries



Meeting Summary
Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional
CEDS Committee Meeting

October 04, 2012
3:00 PM, Greenfield Education and Training Center
57 South Center Drive
Daleville, VA 24083

Committee Members Present:

Dave Kleppinger, Hunter Young, Rupert Cutler, Darlene Burcham, John Strutner, Jill Loope, Kevin Persinger, Brenda Walker, Kathleen Guzi (on behalf of David Moorman), Raphael Ferris, Chris Lawrence, Ken Lanford

Others Present:

Rob Ledger, City of Roanoke
Scott Burton, RVARC
Wayne Strickland, RVARC

Committee Members Absent:

Teresa Hammond, Eddie Elswick, Bryon Foley, Carolyn Fidler, Chris Morrill, Kevin Boggess, Chuck Simpson, Anne Stanley, Ione Callender, Jay Foster, Terri Workman, Rob Erdman, David Preston, Stephanie Brown, Robert Sandel, Richard Teaff, Anne Stanley, Jennifer Durling, Richard Flora, Suzanne Adcock, Hal Mabe, Doloris Vest, Mark Taylor, Jim Poythress, Spencer Suter, Rebecca Walter, James Houff, Carl Brinkley, Beth Doughty, Michael Maxey

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Chairman Ken Lanford.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Lanford welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He then asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Economic Development District Designation update

Mr. Strickland began by providing the committee with an Economic Development District (EDD) designation update. Mr. Strickland noted that the RVARC is still working with their Economic Development Administration (EDA) representative regarding the board structure issue. Mr. Strickland noted that EDA has proposed several changes to their EDD regulations. These changes, if adopted, would essentially remove the barriers that the RVARC is facing regarding EDD designation. Those in attendance then discussed other possible EDD designation and grant options.

Mr. Burton noted that obtaining EDD designation is vital to the future development of the CEDS. Designation will provide the RVARC with the resources it needs to devote more time to developing and implementing the CEDS. Designation will also benefit non-distressed localities with additional EDA grant opportunities.

CEDS Process update

Mr. Burton provided an overview of his EDA Training Conference in Philadelphia. The conference focused, in part, on CEDS development and implementation. In addition to specific projects, EDA has stressed the importance of creating a strategy driven CEDS. EDA emphasized the importance of only including realistic projects within the CEDS. Realistic projects should have had engineering and feasibility studies complete, dedicated matching funds, etc. Mr. Burton indicated that the CEDS should be a living document and that more information would be provided on the www.regionalstrategy.org website. Mr. Burton also discussed the importance and advantages of submitting EDA grant applications in partnership with other CEDS regions and EDDs. These projects may be more compelling to EDA, since the projects would benefit multiple regions. Mr. Burton then discussed statewide CEDS planning processes.

CEDS Annual Update modifications

Mr. Burton provided the CEDS committee with an overview of the changes that RVARC staff intend to make to the CEDS Annual Update. Mr. Burton noted that an executive summary CEDS would be created that could be distributed in lieu of the entire report. The executive summary will deemphasize the data elements of the CEDS. The executive summary will be a standalone document.

Project nominations and update process

Mr. Burton stressed that the following types of projects were mentioned several times at the EDA Training Conference in Philadelphia: entrepreneurship, innovation, advanced manufacturing, small business development, cluster strengthening, business incubators, and hi-tech industries. EDA also mentioned the importance of traditional projects such as industrial and commercial parks and infrastructure improvements and expansions.

Officer nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair

Mr. Burton noted that the committee could nominate a new Chair and Vice-Chair if any committee members were interested in the positions. However, no one was nominated or volunteered. Several committee members indicated that Chairman Lanford and Vice-Chair Taylor should continue serving as long as they are still interested.

FY 2013 meeting calendar

- December 06, 2012 - review project package, nominate/volunteers for ranking subcommittee, modify prioritization criteria to deemphasize EDA eligibility
- February 7, 2013 – data update, review ranked projects, small CEDS outline
- April 18, 2013 – approve the FY 2013 Annual Update

Committee discussion regarding economic development projects

Mr. Burton then provided those in attendance with an opportunity to update the committee on any current/future/proposed economic development projects or initiatives within the locality they represent. He noted that a discussion about regional projects would provide everyone in attendance with an opportunity to learn more about economic development projects/initiatives within the RVAR CEDS region.

Adjournment

Chairman Lanford thanked everyone once again for their attendance and participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

Meeting Summary
Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional
CEDS Committee Meeting

December 6, 2012
3:00 PM, Greenfield Education and Training Center
57 South Center Drive
Daleville, VA 24083

Committee Members Present:

Dave Kleppinger, Hunter Young, Rupert Cutler, Darlene Burcham, John Strutner, Jill Loope, Kathleen Guzi (on behalf of David Moorman), Ken Lanford, Teresa Hammond, Brenda Walker, Courtney Penn (on behalf of Michael Maxey)

Others Present:

Wayne Bowers, City of Roanoke
Brandon Turner, City of Roanoke
Eddie Wells, RVARC
Wayne Strickland, RVARC

Committee Members Absent:

Eddie Elswick, Bryon Foley, Carolyn Fidler, Chris Morrill, Kevin Boggess, Chuck Simpson, Anne Stanley, Lone Callender, Jay Foster, Terri Workman, Rob Erdman, David Preston, Stephanie Brown, Anne Stanley, Richard Flora, Suzanne Adcock, Hal Mabe, Doloris Vest, Mark Taylor, Jim Poythress, Rebecca Walter, Carl Brinkley, Beth Doughty, Michael Maxey, Kevin Persinger, Raphael Ferris, Chris Lawrence

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Chairman Ken Lanford.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Lanford welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He then asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Economic Development District Designation update

Mr. Strickland began by providing the committee with an Economic Development District (EDD) designation update. Mr. Strickland noted that EDA has proposed several changes to their EDD regulations which are expected to be finalized in December.

Proposed Statewide CEDS

Mr. Strickland informed the group that the Virginia Chamber of Commerce has approached EDA about funding a statewide CEDS. If approved the statewide CEDS could serve as the basis of the Governor's

State Economic Development Plan. It is assumed that projects from each regional CEDS would serve as the foundation for the statewide document. There are four other statewide CEDS under development. There were several questions from Committee members about the potential impact of a statewide CEDS on the RVAR CEDS. Mr. Strickland stated that the PDC directors will be meeting with Barry Duval, Director of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, next week and he will report back to the committee any additional information gained at that discussion.

FY 2013 EDA FFO

Mr. Wells informed the Committee that the EDA has announced its annual Federal Funding Opportunity along with the necessary grant application materials.

Locality Eligibility Update

Mr. Wells provided an update of the locality eligibility matrix. It was noted that the matrix contained new Census data released the day of the meeting and that the Town of Vinton no longer met the eligibility requirements due to a change in per capita income.

CEDS Process update

Mr. Wells provided an overview of the proposed update process for the 2013 CEDS project package. Several members of the Committee questioned the reasoning for including such a large number of projects, particularly ones that were either not eligible or not active. Ms. Burcham suggested that the project list should be shortened and that each locality should pick its top priority projects for inclusion on the list. Ms. Loope recommended that the CEDS Committee review the project list at a January meeting and incorporate the locality's priority projects only. Mr. Cutler agreed with the premise of focusing on only the priority projects and the need to move forward on projects if the CEDS process is to continue. Mr. Strutner reminded the Committee that while many of the projects are not active, placing them in the CEDS provides evidence to other funding agencies that the projects are considered to be important to the entire region. Mr. Wells agreed to arrange the next CEDS Committee meeting for January 10, 2013 at Greenfield for the purpose of reviewing and revising the project priority list.

FY 2013 CEDS Schedule

Mr. Wells outlined the FY 2013 CEDS Schedule.

January – Committee meeting to review of CEDS project list; prioritization of projects

March – Committee meeting to review of updated economic data/trends

April – Committee meeting to consider the FY 2013 project package

May – Public Hearing

May – RVARC consideration of FY 2013 Annual Report

June – CEDS Annual Report submitted to EDA

Committee discussion regarding economic development projects

- Mr. Wells then provided those in attendance with an opportunity to update the committee on any current/future/proposed economic development projects or initiatives within the locality they represent.
- Ms. Burcham stated that the Town of Clifton Forge continues to work with VDOT to complete the design work and application to the Economic Development Access Program for a new access road to the Alleghany Regional Commerce Center site.

- Mr. Wells reminded the Committee that the application period for the VDOT Transportation Alternatives Program is open for those interested in greenways, depot restoration, and other transportation related enhancement type projects.
- Mr. Wells informed the Committee that RVARC had reviewed the 2012 Agency Savings Strategies Submissions summary report detailing the proposed 4% budgets cuts requested by the Governor. There was a brief discussion of the report. Mr. Wells will place the report on the RVARC website for download by the Committee and other interested parties.

Adjournment

Chairman Lanford thanked everyone once again for their attendance and participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

Meeting Summary
Roanoke Valley - Alleghany Regional
CEDS Committee Meeting

January 10, 2013
3:00 PM, Greenfield Education and Training Center
57 South Center Drive
Daleville, VA 24083

Committee Members Present:

Dave Kleppinger, Hunter Young, Rupert Cutler, Jill Loope, Ken Lanford, John Hull (for Beth Doughty), and Ryan Spitzer.

Others Present:

Brandon Turner, City of Roanoke
Eddie Wells, RVARC
Wayne Strickland, RVARC

Committee Members Absent:

Darlene Burcham, John Strutner, David Moorman, Teresa Hammond, Brenda Walker, Michael Maxey, Ed Elswick, Bryon Foley, Carolyn Fidler, Chris Morrill, Kevin Boggess, Chuck Simpson, Anne Stanley, Ione Callender, Jay Foster, Terri Workman, Rob Erdman, David Preston, Stephanie Brown, Anne Stanley, Richard Flora, Suzanne Adcock, Hal Mabe, Doloris Vest, Mark Taylor, Jim Poythress, Rebecca Walter, Carl Brinkley, Kevin Persinger, Raphael Ferris, and Chris Lawrence.

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Chairman Ken Lanford.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Lanford welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

Proposed Statewide CEDS

Mr. Strickland stated that the PDC directors met with Barry Duval, Director of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, about the proposal. At this time the Virginia Chamber of Commerce does not have details of how a statewide CEDS would be implemented.

Project Nominations and Ranking

The project listing was sent to committee members in December for review. Members were asked to update project information and submit any new projects that should be added to the list.

Project updates were received from the Town of Clifton forge and the City of Roanoke.

RVARC did not receive any new project nominations prior to the meeting. One project was added to the listing during the meeting. The Regional Broadband Infrastructure Development project, to be coordinated by the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, was added to the list as a priority project.

The Committee removed projects based on four criteria: 1) projects that have been completed, 2) projects that are no longer feasible, 3) long-term projects, or 4) projects that are no longer active. Committee moved the remaining of projects moved to a “vision list” at this time.

Committee members undertook exercise to select priority projects. Committee members updated projects and then determined which projects should be priorities.

Additional input is needed from Committee members not in attendance and from local governments prior to finalizing the priority list.

Mr. Cutler suggested that Western Virginia Water Authority be contacted to see if any of their capital projects would fit into the CEDS and/or qualify for EDA funding.

FY 2013 CEDS Schedule

Mr. Wells outlined the FY 2013 CEDS Schedule.

March 21 - Review changing economic data/trends, adoption of project package

April 18 - Consideration of FY 2013 Project Package

May 23 - RVARC considers FY 2013 Annual Report

May 23 - Public hearing

June - CEDS Annual Report submitted to EDA

Committee discussion regarding economic development projects

- Mr. Wells then provided those in attendance with an opportunity to update the committee on any current/future/proposed economic development projects or initiatives within the locality they represent.

Adjournment

Chairman Lanford thanked everyone once again for their attendance and participation. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

**Meeting Summary
Roanoke Valley - Alleghany Regional
CEDS Committee Meeting**

March 21, 2013
3:00 PM, Greenfield Education and Training Center
57 South Center Drive
Daleville, VA 24083

Committee Members Present:

Hunter Young, Rupert Cutler, Richard Flora, Ray Ferris, Kathleen Guzi and Kevin Persinger.

Others Present:

Wayne Bowers, City of Roanoke
Wayne Strickland, RVARC
Brandon Turner, City of Roanoke
Eddie Wells, RVARC

Committee Members Absent:

Darlene Burcham, John Strutner, David Moorman, Teresa Hammond, Brenda Walker, Michael Maxey, Ed Elswick, Bryon Foley, Carolyn Fidler, Chris Morrill, Kevin Boggess, Chuck Simpson, Ione Callender, Jay Foster, Terri Workman, Rob Erdman, David Preston, Stephanie Brown, Anne Stanley, Suzanne Adcock, Hal Mabe, Doloris Vest, Mark Taylor, Jim Poythress, Rebecca Walter, Carl Brinkley, Jill Loope, Ken Lanford, Beth Doughty, and Chris Lawrence.

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Mr. Wells.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Wells welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Project Nominations and Ranking

A revised project listing was sent to committee members for review. The revised project list included projects that are going to be moved from active list to a vision list. Members were asked to review the project listing information and note any necessary changes.

Ms. Guzi asked that two projects be removed from the Botetourt County project section:
1) Greenfield - Vista Park Water System and 2) Tinker Creek Interceptor Improvements. Both projects are complete.

Additional input is needed from CEDS Committee members not in attendance and from local governments prior to finalizing the priority list.

Mr. Bowers urged the committee to request that the region be allowed to submit for EDA funding eligibility by Census Tract. Many other regions across the nation are developing their CEDS based on Census Tracts. This would provide additional opportunities and flexibility for economic development planning and use of EDA funding. The Committee members agreed that EDA should be contacted about this option and that the relevant data and maps should be included in the CEDS document.

The Committee discussed the need for additional projects to address workforce development including craft and technical training programs and business incubators.

Mr. Cutler asked about the status of the Norfolk Southern intermodal facility that is planned for construction in Elliston. Mr. Strickland replied that little movement has taken place on the project. He stated that Norfolk Southern has said that local industries have not shown a demand for the facility at this time. Mr. Strickland suggested that area industries and local government leaders should remind Norfolk Southern and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation that this facility is needed.

The Committee discussed the idea of including major transportation projects that impact economic development in the CEDS. Projects such as the NS Intermodal Facility in Elliston, access to industrial sites, upgrading Exit 150, passenger rail, and four-laning Route 220 all impact economic development in the region. The Committee agreed that the RVARC staff should review how other regions have combined CEDS with long range transportation plans.

Mr. Strickland noted that Thelma Drake, Director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation will speak at the Roanoke Regional Chamber's Policy Luncheon on May 9th in Roanoke. This event will give interested parties an opportunity to hear directly from DRPT about proposed rail projects. Mr. Strickland will email information about the event to Committee members.

Blueprint Virginia Update

The Committee was provided a copy of a recent presentation about Blueprint Virginia. The Committee discussed possible opportunities to host an input session in the region.

FY 2013 CEDS Schedule

Mr. Wells outlined the FY 2013 CEDS Schedule. Mr. Strickland announced that Laura Leigh Savage from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership has been invited to speak at the April CEDS Committee meeting.

April 18 - Consideration of FY 2013 Project Package

May 23 - RVARC considers FY 2013 Annual Report

May 23 - Public hearing

June - CEDS Annual Report submitted to EDA

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

**Meeting Summary
Roanoke Valley - Alleghany Regional
CEDS Committee Meeting**

April 18, 2013
3:00 PM, Greenfield Education and Training Center
57 South Center Drive
Daleville, VA 24083

Committee Members Present:

Darlene Burcham, Dave Kleppinger, Jim Poythress, Ryan Spitzer (for Chris Lawrence), John Strutner, and Hunter Young.

Others Present:

Wayne Bowers, City of Roanoke
Brandon Turner, City of Roanoke
Eddie Wells, RVARC

Committee Members Absent:

David Moorman, Teresa Hammond, Brenda Walker, Michael Maxey, Ed Elswick, Bryon Foley, Carolyn Fidler, Chris Morrill, Kevin Boggess, Chuck Simpson, Ione Callender, Jay Foster, Terri Workman, Rob Erdman, David Preston, Stephanie Brown, Anne Stanley, Suzanne Adcock, Hal Mabe, Doloris Vest, Mark Taylor, Rebecca Walter, Carl Brinkley, Jill Loope, Ken Lanford, Beth Doughty, Rupert Cutler, Richard Flora, Ray Ferris, Kathleen Guzi, and Kevin Persinger.

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Mr. Wells.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Wells welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Consideration of 2013 CEDS Annual Report

Committee reviewed the 2013 Annual Report that includes update information for population, labor force, eligibility, and project priorities.

The following revisions were made to the Priority Project listing:

1. Mr. Kleppinger changed name of Alleghany Highlands Commerce Center Improvements to Alleghany Regional Commerce Center with agreement from Mr. Strutner.
2. Clifton Forge Industrial Park access road changed to "Business Park" by Ms. Burcham and Mr. Kleppinger.
3. Alleghany Highlands Regional Business Resource Center changed to Clifton Forge Incubator by Ms. Burcham and Mr. Kleppinger.

4. Mr. Bowers noted that the project spreadsheet should be changed to match the Priority List title "Construction of Amtrak Passenger Rail Station." The project is listed as the "renovation" of a passenger rail station on the spreadsheet.

The following changes were made to the Long-Term Priorities:

1. Clifton Forge Railyard Redevelopment was moved to the Priority List by Ms. Burcham and Mr. Kleppinger due to productive ongoing talks with CSX.
2. Railroad Infrastructure Buckingham Branch project was removed from list by Mr. Kleppinger due to private ownership of the rail line with agreement from Ms. Burcham and Mr. Strutner.
3. Alleghany Highlands Research Center removed from list by Mr. Kleppinger due to lack of activity.
4. Clearwater Park Storage Tank and New Oakwood Forest Pump Station were removed from list by Mr. Strutner due to a lack of relationship to an economic development project.
5. Low Moor Data Security Center was removed from list by Mr. Kleppinger due to the site's private ownership and completion of the needed public improvements with agreement from Mr. Strutner.
6. Alleghany Highlands Biomass Energy Initiative was removed from list by Mr. Kleppinger due to its anticipated completion in Summer 2013.
7. Alleghany Highlands Return to Roots Campaign was removed by Mr. Kleppinger due to lack of activity with agreement from Ms. Burcham and Mr. Strutner.
8. Roanoke River Greenway projects moved to the Priority List by Ms. Burcham with agreement from Mr. Bowers.

FY 2013 CEDS Schedule

Mr. Wells outlined the FY 2013 CEDS Schedule.

April 23 - Public Comment period begins

May 23 - Public hearing

May 23 - RVARC considers FY 2013 Annual Report

June - CEDS Annual Report submitted to EDA

The Committee discussed declining attendance of the CEDS meetings, alternatives for meeting formats, and the meeting schedule for FY2013-14. The following suggestions were made:

There is a need to focus on a small number of priority projects and move those projects forward.

The Committee should consider taking a more comprehensive approach to the CEDS and not limit it only to projects that could be eligible for EDA funding. All economic development projects that impact the region should be taken into consideration.

Many members are not attending because they feel that there is not a pressing need for them to be at the meetings. There is also an increasing level of frustration over the perception that many of the CEDS projects will not be funded by EDA and that local input is therefore not needed.

As an alternative to attending the meetings in person, RVARC should offer the members an option to attend online via a service such as GoToWebinar.

Meetings should be held quarterly and members should be provided a schedule of meetings at the beginning of the fiscal year so that everyone can reserve the dates on their calendars.

The CEDS Committee should have guest speakers talk about active and potential economic development projects. An EDA representative should be invited to speak to Committee members.

Other Business

Mr. Wells provided a summary of the most recent Roanoke Valley Broadband meeting. The Committee was informed that the group plans on creating a new broadband authority by July 2013 and that Allied Fiber is installing fiber along the Norfolk Southern right of way that roughly parallels I-81.

Mr. Wells reminded Committee members about several upcoming Blueprint Virginia meetings.

Mr. Wells reminded Committee members about the upcoming Roanoke Regional Chamber Policy Luncheon that will feature Thelma Drake, Director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.



Appendix III: Detailed Project Package



Goal and Objective	Description	Possible Funding Sources	Total Cost	Responsible Agency	Partners	Scheduled Construction Date	Project Status	Site Control	Another plan or strategy	Job impact potential	Complete/Substantially Complete
Allegheny County											
3.3	Allegheny Regional Commerce Center Improvements (includes natural gas line)	ARC CDBG EDA Localities	\$20,000,000	Allegheny County VEDP AHEDC	AHEDC Allegheny County RVARC VEDP	2013-2019	Preliminary Engineering, Costs, Scope Developed	Site Acquired	Yes	1000	
Allegheny Highlands Economic Development Corporation											
3.3	Clifton Forge Business Park access road	EDA ARC CDBG Localities RD Private	\$750,000	AHEDC Town of Clifton Forge	RVARC	2014	Preliminary Design/Early Planning	Site Acquired	No	150	
3.3	Clifton Forge Railyard Redevelopment	ARC CDBG EDA VDOT Localities	\$5,000,000	AHEDC Localities	ARC DHCD EDA VDOT	2015	Early Planning	Site Acquired	Yes	250	
3.2 3.3	Allegheny Highlands Telecommunications Infrastructure (Crows - Hematite)	EDA ARC CDBG Localities RD Private	\$2,000,000	AHEDC	AHEDC RVARC Allegheny County Private Sector	2011-2013	Preliminary analysis complete	No Site ID	Yes	Unknown	
Botetourt County											
3.1 3.3	Greenfield- East Park Water Systems Connection	Botetourt County VRA EDA	\$3,000,000	Botetourt County		2013	PER Complete. Costs, Scope Developed	Site Acquired	Yes	100	
3.1 3.3	Greenfield Treatment/Additional Source Development	Botetourt County VDH VRA EDA	\$5,200,000	Botetourt County		2013	Preliminary Engineering, Costs, Scope Developed	Site Acquired	Yes	100	
5.1	Upper James River Water Trail - Phase II	The Allegheny Foundation Botetourt County VTC DGIF	\$250,000	Botetourt County	Friends of the Rivers of Virginia DGIF DCR	2013	Feasibility Analysis Complete, May Add Sites	Sites Acquired	Yes	50	
Town of Clifton Forge											
3.3	Clifton Forge Water Plant Expansion	ARC CDBG RD VDH Localities	\$2,300,000	Town of Clifton Forge	AHEDC DHCD Localities RD SERCAP VDH	2013	Engineering Costs and Approvals Substantially Complete	Site Acquired	Yes	Unknown	
3.3	Clifton Forge Water and Sewer Infrastructure Upgrades	ARC CDBG RD VDH Localities	\$1,600,000	Town of Clifton Forge	DHCD Localities RD RVARC SERCAP VDH	2013-2014	Engineering Costs and Approvals Substantially Complete	Site Acquired	Yes	Unknown	
3.4	New Clifton Forge Amtrak Station	VDOT Local Private	\$300,000	Town of Clifton Forge	C&O Historical Soc.	2013	Analysis Design Plans and Initial Construction Complete	Site Acquired	No	Unknown	

Goal and Objective	Description	Possible Funding Sources	Total Cost	Responsible Agency	Partners	Scheduled Construction Date	Project Status	Site Control	Another plan or strategy	Job impact potential	Complete/ Substantially Complete
3.5 6.3	Masonic Theater Renovation	ARC CDBG EDA Localities Private VDHR	\$250,000	Town of Clifton Forge	Localities Private sector VDHR	2013-2014	Substantially Complete	Site Acquired	Yes	Unknown	
1.2	Clifton Forge Business Incubator	EDA VDHCD Localities	\$4,000,000	City of Covington	AHEDC DSLCC RVARC DHCD VDBA	2014	Feasibility Analysis In Progress	No Site ID	Yes	50	
3.5 6.2 6.3	Clifton Forge Downtown Revitalization	CDBG Localities Private	\$3,200,000	Town of Clifton Forge AHEDC	AHCC CRHA Localities Private Sector RVARC	2013-2016	Feasibility Analysis In Progress	No Site ID	Yes	Unknown	
City of Covington											
3.5 6.2 6.3	Covington Downtown Revitalization	CDBG Localities Private	\$3,200,000	City of Covington AHEDC	AHCC CRHA Localities Private Sector RVARC	2014-2016	Feasibility Analysis In Progress	No Site ID	Yes	Unknown	
Craig County											
1.2	Craig County New Business Incubator	DHCD EDA ARC Local	\$3,500,000	Craig County	VWCC RVARC DHCD VDBA	2015	Early Planning	Site Acquired	No	50	
2	Craig County Viticulture Initiative	EDA ARC Local	\$150,000	Craig County Virginia Western Community College	VWCC ARC	2013-2015	Underway	Site Acquired	No	10	
City of Roanoke											
1.1 3.1 3.3	Roanoke Center for Industry and Technology Hills Dr. Extension	Blue EDA Local	\$4,474,087	City of Roanoke		2014	Engineering Costs and Approvals Substantially Complete	Site Acquired	Yes	150	
3.4 3.5 4.3	Construction of Passenger Rail Station	DRPT Local Private	\$500,000	City of Roanoke	RVARC RVAMPO	2014-2015	Preliminary Engineering, Costs, Scope Developed	Site Acquired	Yes	15	
Roanoke County											
1.1 2.3 2.5 2.7 3.3 5.5	VT Earthworks at Catawba Sustainability Center	Virginia Tech USDA Private	Unknown	Virginia Tech	Localities VT Knowledgeworks	Unknown	Feasibility Analysis In Progress	Site Acquired	No	50	
Roanoke Regional Partnership											
1.2	Regional Entrepreneurial Seed Money and Advocacy Program	DHCD EDA Local	Unknown	Regional Partnership	SBDC Private Sector	2014	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	

Goal and Objective	Description	Possible Funding Sources	Total Cost	Responsible Agency	Partners	Scheduled Construction Date	Project Status	Site Control	Another plan or strategy	Job impact potential	Complete/ Substantially Complete
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission											
3.3	Roanoke Valley Stormwater Improvements	EDA DCR VRA Local	\$61,000,000	Localities	RVARC	2013-2018	Feasibility Analysis Complete	Site ID	Yes	Unknown	
3.2 3.3	Roanoke Valley Broadband Development	Private EDA Local Governments	\$6,000,000	RVARC	Local Governments Private Sector	2013-2015	Preliminary Planning	No	Yes	Unknown	
1.2	RVARC Revolving Loan Fund	EDA VDBA Local	\$1,000,000	RVARC	RVEDP AHEDC Chambers of Commerce	2014	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
4.1 5.1 5.2 5.3	Virginia Rail Heritage Area	VTC	unknown	RVARC	VA Western Highlands AHEDC	2012-2013	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission											
3.5	Roanoke River Greenway Completion	Localities State Federal Private Sector	\$29,985,960	Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission	Private Sector Localities Corps of Engineers VDOT	2007-2017	Preliminary Engineering, Costs, Scope Developed	Site ID but not secured	Yes	Unknown	
City of Salem											
	NONE										
Town of Vinton											
3.2	Vinton Downtown Broadband Infrastructure Strategy	Private DHCD EDA Local	\$300,000	Town of Vinton		2013	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
1.2	Town of Vinton Small Business Incubator	Local DHCD EDA VHDA	\$3,500,000	Town of Vinton	SBDC VDBA VHDA	2014	Early Planning	No Site ID	No	Unknown	
Virginia Western Community College											
2	Enhance Regional Career Coach Program (6 additional coaches)	State DOL	\$180,000 annually	Virginia Western Community College	WVWDB Regional Partnership	2013-2014	Feasibility Analysis Complete	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	

Goal and Objective	Description	Possible Funding Sources	Total Cost	Responsible Agency	Partners	Scheduled Construction Date	Project Status	Site Control	Another plan or strategy	Job impact potential	Complete/ Substantially Complete
Alleghany County											
3.5 5.1	Jackson River Scenic Trail Phase IV	Local, Private DCR The Alleghany Foundation	\$3,400,000	Alleghany County	Private Localities VDCR VDOT	2014	Engineering Costs and Approvals substantially Complete	Site Acquired	Yes	Unknown	
3.3	Selma to Low Moor Water System Upgrade	ARC CDBG RD VDH Localities	\$821,333	Alleghany County	AHEDC DHCD Localities RD RVARC SERCAP VDH	2014	Early Planning	Site Acquired	Yes	Unknown	
Alleghany Highlands Economic Development Corporation											
3.3	Innovation Park	ARC CDBG EDA Localities	Unknown	AHEDC Alleghany County	RVEDP VEDP	2020	Feasibility Analysis Complete	Site Acquired	No	1000	
Botetourt County											
	NONE										
Town of Clifton Forge											
	NONE										
City of Covington											
	NONE										
Craig County											
	NONE										
City of Roanoke											
6	Mountain View/Norwich Brownfield Redevelopment	EPA EDA Local	Unknown	City of Roanoke	Regional Partnership	2014	Early Planning	Site Acquired	Yes	500-1000	
2.6 3.1 3.5 5.3	Civic Center Renovation Projects	City of Roanoke	\$8,075,000	City of Roanoke		Unknown	Engineering, costs, and approvals substantially complete	Site Acquired	Yes	Unknown	
3.5 4.3	Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center Parking Structure	City of Roanoke Conference Center Virginia Tech Foundation	\$5,500,000	City of Roanoke	Virginia Tech Hotel Roanoke	Unknown	Feasibility Analysis Complete	Site Acquired	No	30	
2.6 3.3 3.5	Colonial Avenue Streetscape Enhancements	VDOT	\$7,518,733	City of Roanoke	RVAMPO	2016	Conceptual Design Phase	Site Acquired	Yes	Unknown	
Roanoke County											
	NONE										

Goal and Objective	Description	Possible Funding Sources	Total Cost	Responsible Agency	Partners	Scheduled Construction Date	Project Status	Site Control	Another plan or strategy	Job impact potential	Complete/ Substantially Complete
Roanoke Regional Partnership											
5.4	Conservation incentives for businesses and individuals	Local Private	Unknown	Regional Partnership	Localities Private Sector	2014	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
4.1 4.2	Regional Public Relations Function and Centralized Information Hub	Local	\$80,000 Annually	Chambers of Commerce Regional Partnership	CVB Localities	2014	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
5.1 1.1	Business Incentive Fund for Businesses that Support Outdoor Recreation	Local Private	Unknown	Regional Partnership	Localities Private Sector	2014	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
1.1 1.2 1.3 3.3	Roanoke Regional Airport, Expanded Air Service and Improvements Study	Local FAA	\$100,000	Regional Partnership	Roanoke Regional Airport	2014	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
5.1	Encourage Development and Expansion of Bikeways	Local Private	Unknown	Regional Partnership	Greenway Commission Localities	2014	Feasibility Analysis Complete	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
5.1	Encourage Development of a Youth Hostel	Local Private	Unknown	Regional Partnership	Localities Private Sector	2014	Early Planning	No Site ID	No	Unknown	
Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau											
	NONE										
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission											
	NONE										
Roanoke Valley Greenways Commission											
	NONE										
City of Salem											
	NONE										
Town of Vinton											
6.1 6.2 6.4	Vinton Industrial Park Former Landfill Lot Feasibility Analysis	EPA EDA Local	\$50,000	Town of Vinton		2014	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
3.3	Town of Vinton Sewer Upgrades (Reduce I&I)	VRA Local	\$100,000	Town of Vinton		2015	Early Planning	Site Acquired	No	Unknown	
3.3	Town of Vinton Downtown Stormwater Mitigation	DCR VRA Local	\$800,000	Town of Vinton		2015	Early Planning	Site Acquired	No	Unknown	
3.3	Town of Vinton Historic Street Lighting	Local Private DHCD Trans. Enhancement	\$350,000	Town of Vinton		2015	Early Planning	Site Acquired	No	Unknown	
4.1	Town of Vinton Real Estate Database	Private Local	Unknown	Town of Vinton	Vinton Chamber of Commerce	2015	Early Planning	No Site Req.	No	Unknown	
Virginia Western Community College											
	NONE										



Appendix IV: Resolution for Adoption





Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL
commission

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 | rvarc@rvarc.org

The 23rd day of May, 2013

RESOLUTION

To Approve the 2013 Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Update

WHEREAS, in 2007 the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission updated its Strategic Plan, which called for the development of a regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany region and for pursuing designation as an Economic Development District by the U.S. Economic Development Administration; and

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Committee has been engaged in reviewing CEDS priority projects and in preparing the FY 2013 Annual Update, which fulfills requirements as set forth by the Economic Development Administration in applicable federal regulations pertaining to CEDS reports; and

WHEREAS, the CEDS planning process is a continuous planning process that will enhance regional economic competitiveness and will prove vital in implementing regional priorities for investment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission does hereby approve the 2013 Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Update, as presented.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Martin Sr".

Billy Martin, Sr.
Chairman