REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM

2015-2016 Fiscal Year

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

FY 2016 Comprehensive Work Program

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Eddie Wells, *AICP, CZA, Director of Community Development Programs*

NOTES:

AICP	American Institute of Certified Planners
CZA	Certified Zoning Administrator
LEED AP	Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design Accredited Professional
LEED GA	Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design Green Associate
MPA	Masters in Public Administration

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany REGIONAL commission

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OVERVIEW

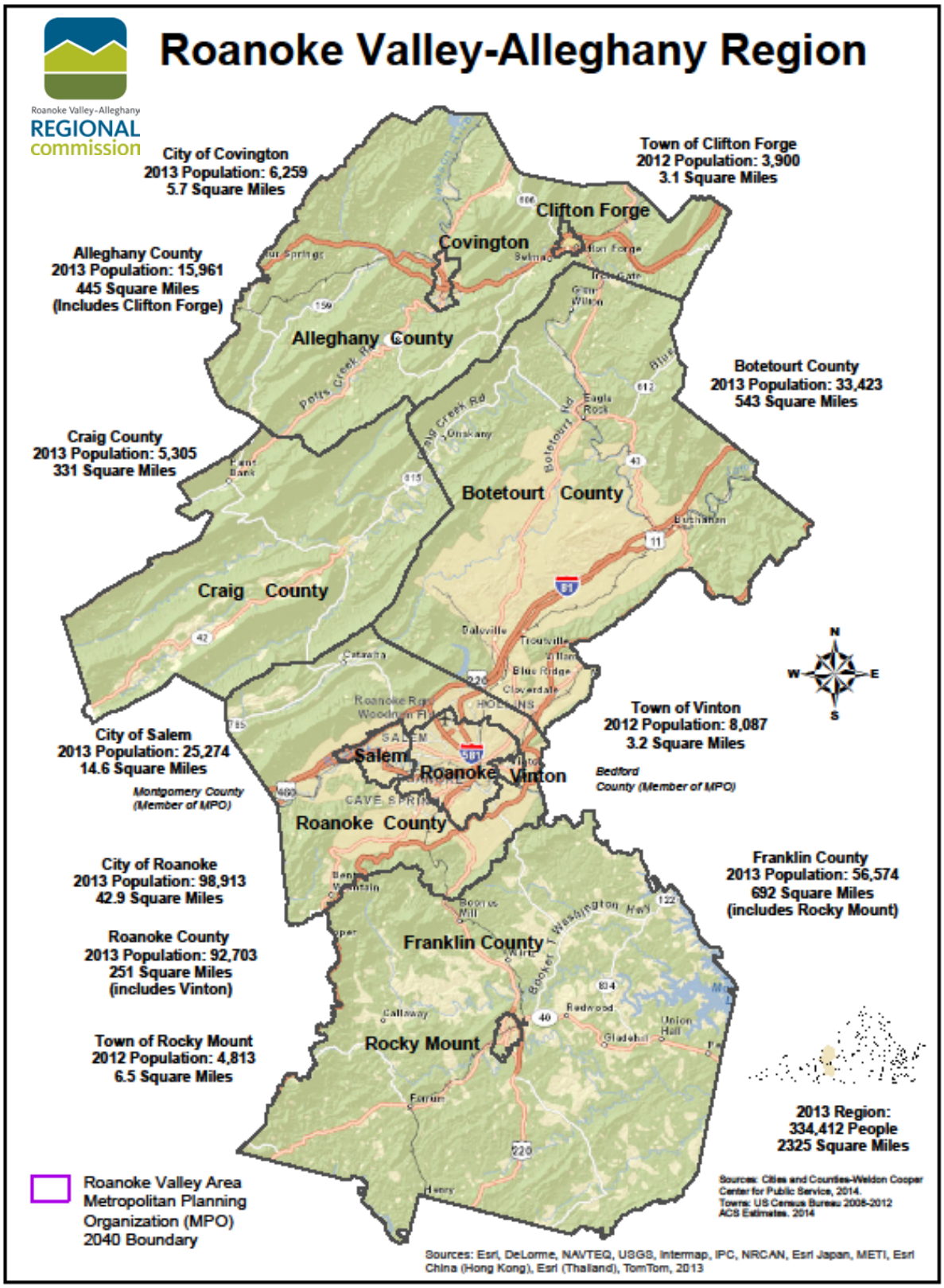
The annual Comprehensive Work Program is the basis for achieving the objectives and strategies outlined in the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission's Strategic Plan. The Commission strives to maximize its limited staff and resources by developing a comprehensive work plan based on current needs and priorities of the region.

This Work Program is a compilation of projects presented by Commission members, Chief Administrative Officials, the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization (RVTPO) Policy Board, regional economic development-related organizations and staff. Projects are reviewed and ranked according to importance, funding availability, staff time and other constraints. The intent is to obtain the most benefit from the least direct cost to the local governments. Requests not included in this year's work program are added to a list of potential projects for future work programs. These potential projects may be included in next year's work program if the need still exists and funding is available.

The work program is revised annually and may be amended as deemed necessary by the member governments that we serve.

Members of the FY 2016 Work Program Committee:

Charles Wagner, *Committee Chair* – Franklin County
Shannon Cox – Alleghany County
John Williamson – Botetourt County
Clay Goodman – Craig County
Charlotte Moore – Roanoke County
William B. Zimmerman, Jr. – City of Covington
Bill Bestpitch – City of Roanoke
Johnette Roberts – Town of Clifton Forge
James Ervin – Town of Rocky Mount
Mayor Brad Grose – Town of Vinton
Jane Johnson – Regional Commission Chair *(Ex-Officio Member)*


Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany REGIONAL commission
City of Covington
2013 Population: 6,259
5.7 Square Miles
Town of Clifton Forge
2012 Population: 3,900
3.1 Square Miles
Clifton Forge
Covington
Alleghany County
2013 Population: 15,961
445 Square Miles
(Includes Clifton Forge)
Alleghany County
Botetourt County
2013 Population: 33,423
543 Square Miles
Craig County
2013 Population: 5,305
331 Square Miles
Botetourt County
Craig County
Town of Vinton
2012 Population: 8,087
3.2 Square Miles
City of Salem
2013 Population: 25,274
14.6 Square Miles
Montgomery County
(Member of MPO)
Salem
Roanoke
Vinton
Bedford
County (Member of MPO)
Roanoke County
City of Roanoke
2013 Population: 98,913
42.9 Square Miles
Franklin County
2013 Population: 56,574
692 Square Miles
(includes Rocky Mount)
Roanoke County
2013 Population: 92,703
251 Square Miles
(includes Vinton)
Franklin County
Town of Rocky Mount
2012 Population: 4,813
6.5 Square Miles
Rocky Mount
2013 Region:
334,412 People
2325 Square Miles
Roanoke Valley Area
Metropolitan Planning
Organization (MPO)
2040 Boundary
Sources: Cities and Counties-Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, 2014.
Towns: US Census Bureau 2008-2012 ACS Estimates, 2014
Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, iPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2013

ACRONYM DESCRIPTIONS

AICP	American Institute of Certified Planners
APA	American Planners Association
ARC	Appalachian Regional Commission
CAC	Citizens Advisory Committee
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CLRTP	Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program
CMP	Congestion Management Plan
CTB	Commonwealth Transportation Board
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality
DHCD	Department of Housing & Community Development
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESG	Emergency Services Grant
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GIS	Geographic Information System
GRTC	Greater Roanoke Transit Company
IMPLAN®	Impact Analysis for Planning Software
LRTDMP	Long Range Transportation Demand Management Plan
LRTP	Long Range Transportation Plan
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
NTD	National Transit Database
PDC	Planning District Commission
PL	Planning funds *(Virginia Department of Transportation)*
PM	Particulate Matter
PPB	Parts per Billion
RADAR	Roanoke Area Dial a Ride
RSTP	Regional Surface Transportation Program
RVARC	Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton)
RVTPO	Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization (Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke, Town of Vinton)
RVBA	Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority
SPR	State Planning Research funds *(Virginia Department of Transportation)*
SYIP	Six Year Improvement Plan
TA	Transportation Alternatives
TE	Transportation Enhancement
TDM	Transportation Demand Management
TDP	Transit Development Plan
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TMA	Transportation Management Area
TPO	Transportation Planning Organization
UPWP	Unified Planning Work Program
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
UHSTS	Unified Human Services Transportation System
VAPDC	Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation
VDRPT	Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transportation
VSTP	Virginia Surface Transportation Plan
VTRANS	Virginia Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan
WIB	Workforce Investment Board
WVWDB	Western Virginia Workforce Development Board

REGIONAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

(Projects involving two or more localities)

Partnership for a Livable Roanoke Valley

The Partnership for a Livable Roanoke Valley (PLRV) seeks to promote economic opportunity and a greater quality of life for all Roanoke Valley residents through the development of the Valley's first coordinated regional plan. The plan was approved in 2014 by the PLRV and the Regional Commission and contains strategies and actions to accomplish goals in the areas of economic development, workforce development, health, and natural assets. PLRV has made a commitment to support and monitor the implementation of the strategies and will meet quarterly to review the progress of the lead agencies in completing their actions. The plan will be reviewed annually and a report prepared to provide a status update on actions completed and implemented. The convening of the PLRV Steering Committee and production of the annual report will be the responsibility of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Jake Gilmer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 100 hrs.

Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority

Staff will assist the regional broadband authority by serving as fiscal agent, assisting with all aspects of contracting, including writing RFPs, advertising, site visits, scheduling, interviewing, conducting negotiations and monitoring awards, assisting with the website updates and coordination of monthly broadband meetings and other tasks as determined by RVBA necessary to ensure the success of the fiber optics telecommunications network,

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke
Project Leader: Matt Miller
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority – 416 hrs., DHCD 156 hrs.

Western Virginia Workforce Development Board

The Regional Commission will serve as the fiscal agent, employer of record, and office location of the Western Virginia Workforce Development Board (WVWDB). Regional Commission staff will provide the following additional services to the WVWDB: financial management, human resource management, communications, information services, and grant development.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke.
Project Leader: Jake Gilmer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – 715 hrs.

Economic Development Planning

Staff will work with the localities to promote economic development in the region, including updating the annual report required by the Economic Development Administration; continue to support tourism initiatives with grant writing and coordination of project activities and work with the Western Virginia Workforce Development Board as needed.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig Franklin and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DHCD – 243 hrs., ARC – 62 hrs.

Aging in Place Workshops

Staff will develop workshops that explore the issues that help our growing elderly population determine how they can stay in their homes and not be forced to search for alternative housing.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig Franklin and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Matt Miller
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments - 80 hrs.

Roanoke River Public Blue Way Mapping & Promotion

Staff will prepare a final Roanoke River Blueway Guide, marketing plan, budget, as well as an access point improvement plan and budget.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Franklin and Roanoke and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Shane Sawyer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 115 hrs.

Regional Housing Plan for the Highlands

Staff will work with localities in the Alleghany Highlands, along with The Alleghany Foundation, USDA Rural Development, Virginia Housing Development Authority, DHCD and a housing consultant to determine the need for market rate and elderly housing. The study will make recommendations for projects to be undertaken to meet the identified needs.

Localities Served: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Town of Clifton Forge.
Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 75 hrs., ARC – 75 hrs.

Regional Leadership Collaboration

Staff will coordinate and facilitate regular meetings of the Mayors and Chairs, as well as Chief Administrative Officials in the region. Staff will continue to work with the Regional Coalition for Economic Development on future leadership trips.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Wayne Strickland
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 90 hrs., ARC – 6 hrs.

Assistance to the Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

Staff will continue coordination of the Interagency Council and related tasks as needed to encourage and facilitate cooperation between local governments, service providers and community based organizations to address homelessness in the Blue Ridge Continuum of Care region.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton
Project Leader: Shane Sawyer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ESG- 12 hrs., DHCD – 75 hrs., ARC – 7 hrs.

Regional Food System Planning

Staff will continue to coordinate the Local Foods Committee to promote economic development, healthy living, environment and natural resources stewardship within the region. Staff will work with our member governments to promote regional agribusiness/agritourism initiatives, sites, and activities.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig Franklin and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments - 60 hrs.

Ridesharing/Alternative Transportation Projects

Staff will continue to operate RIDE Solutions, the regional Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program, to create a greater public awareness of commuting options to address air quality and other environmental issues, as well as stimulate economic vitality by offering a cost-saving alternative to driving alone. The program's work will include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

RIDESolutions
Connecting the Region's Commuters

- Promote TDM strategies through traditional marketing and outreach efforts. Emphasize employer outreach and partnerships as the primary deployment of TDM strategies in the region, with particular emphasis on the creation of commuter choice incentives such as the tax-deferred transit and vanpool benefits.

- Implement a regional vanpool service, in partnership with Enterprise Rideshare, concentrating on the 220 and 460 corridors, as well as connections to Craig County.

- Act as the regional coordinator for the Telework!VA program to promote telework as a commute option. Find creative applications for Telework!VA incentives, including marketing the region as a destination for Northern Virginia teleworkers wanting to relocate but retain their current jobs.

- Manage the RIDE Solutions carpool-match database, Guaranteed Ride Home benefit, web pages, general on-line presence, member's needs, grant writing, bookkeeping, advertising, public outreach, and information requests. Provide other survey and statistical analysis for the region's public transportation and park-and-ride systems.

- Support regional pursuit of the League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Community and Bicycle Friendly Business designation by continued staff support on working groups and by offering consultation services to governments and businesses that are completing their applications.

- Organize and promote regional Bike Month events.

- Update the RIDE Solutions Long Range Transportation Demand Management Plan and Transportation Demand Management content in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Localities Served: Cities of Bedford, Covington, Danville, Lynchburg, Martinsville, Radford, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Botetourt, Campbell, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Pulaski and Roanoke, Towns of Alta Vista, Amherst, Appomattox, Blacksburg, Brookneal, Christiansburg, Clifton Forge, Dublin, Pearisburg, Rocky Mount and Vinton

Project Leader: Jeremy Holmes
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: VDRPT – 2,086 hrs., Local Governments –435 hrs., Region 2000 – 35 hrs., New River Valley PDC – 26 hrs., West Piedmont WIB – 25 hrs.

Save-a-Ton Marketing Campaign

Staff will manage website content for the regional Save-a-Ton marketing campaign. Save-a-Ton connects citizens to local energy savings solutions through a regional marketing campaign that drives customers to the saveaton.org website, which serves as a one-stop portal for services and strategies to save money on energy costs. Staff will work with an executive and advisory committee of local governments and other stakeholders to keep website content updated and current, and to assist a marketing subcommittee with the execution of the regional marketing campaign.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, the County of Roanoke and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Jeremy Holmes
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 100 hrs.

Volunteers for Energy Program

Staff will continue with follow up assessments on audits that have been previously completed to determine what suggestions were implemented and what the cost savings have been.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Tyler Godsey
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 30 hrs.

RVARC Strategic Plan Implementation Phase II

The Regional Commission completed its strategic plan in 2011 and dedicates a portion of the work program each year to achieving its key initiatives. During FY 2016, the Commission will facilitate discussions of possible shared services among member governments. The areas of initial focus for shared services will be on local government purchasing and procurement contracts.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Jake Gilmer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 124 hrs.

Planners Training

The staff will coordinate and facilitate training sessions to assist planners in remaining abreast of current planning issues and best practices and to maintain AICP certification.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 20 hrs.

General Technical Assistance

The staff will research, develop, maintain, and analyze data for use in a variety of technical and planning support activities, including legislative issues relevant to the region.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Staff
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 193 hrs., ARC – 42 hrs.

Grant Writing

The staff will continue to provide assistance to localities in writing grant applications and researching funding opportunities for regional and local development projects. Project includes attendance at grant workshops.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Staff
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DHCD – 105 hrs., ARC – 25 hrs.

IMPLAN®

Staff will assist localities and regional partners with estimating economic impact of a variety of projects and events upon request.

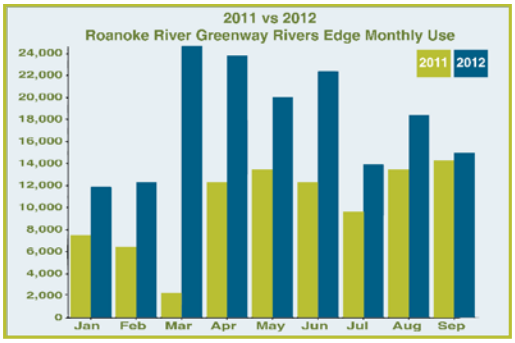
Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Matt Miller
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: as needed

Public Relations and Outreach

The staff will continue with publication of brochures, newsletters, website update, social media and other outreach activities to promote activities and programs of the Commission. Staff will continue implementing the Public Relations and Communications Plan.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton.
Project Leader: Tyler Godsey
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 87 hrs.

State Data Center



Staff will continue its role as the regional clearinghouse for demographic and economic development information and related data.

- Disseminate data from State and Federal sources.
- GRANT System - Staff will compile an email distribution list of local government staff and other interested parties from the region and electronically distribute notices of relevant grant opportunities from federal and state agencies as well as private foundations.
- Regional Intern Program - Staff will manage the Commission's internship program and formulate formal procedures and policies regarding application to the program, attendance, and supervision.
- Regional Planning Library – Staff will continue to maintain and improve library organization and operation to increase its usefulness to Commission members, businesses, and citizens in the region.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton
Project Leader: Staff
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DHCD – 50 hrs.

LOCAL PROJECTS

Alleghany General Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the County with review and update of its land use ordinance to ensure compliance with new applicable State and Federal law and regulations, and an update to its Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 25 hrs., ARC – 25 hrs.

Boones Mill Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the Town with submission of a CDBG grant application for neighborhood improvement.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Town of Boones Mill – 40 hrs.

Botetourt County Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the County with an update to its comprehensive plan, including future land use and Exit 150 Market Study.

Project Leader: Bryan Hill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 25 hrs., ARC – 25 hrs. (See pages 18-19 "Exit 150 Small Area Plan" for supplemental urban transportation hours –See page 21 for supplemental rural transportation planning hours).

Covington Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the City with planning for revitalization and rehabilitation of the historic downtown area and provide grant writing assistance to obtain funds to develop the Jackson River Sports Complex and to establish senior citizen housing.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 20 hrs., ARC – 20 hrs.

Franklin County Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the County with a study of retiree demographics and what will be needed to address this growing population in the area.

Project Leader: Matt Miller
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 80 hrs.

Staff will assist the County with a strategic plan for implementing a comprehensive, thematic, county-wide wayfinding signage program for tourism, recreation and points of interest.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 40 hrs.

Staff will compile maps that include river access points, amenities, way finding information, float times and distances, and other blue way information on the Blackwater and Pigg rivers.

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 55 hrs.

Roanoke City Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the City with developing a comprehensive evacuation plan by working with stakeholders to determine threats and identifying traffic patterns and community habits.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 125 hrs.

Staff will assist the City with an update to its Emergency Operations Plan.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 75 hrs.
(See pages 18 and 19 for supplemental urban transportation hours – PL in the "Corridor Studies, Area Studies and Safety Planning Category)

Town of Rocky Mount Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the Town with DHCD planning grant applications to transform its current depot/visitors center into a business incubator, potential re-development grant for the North Main Corridor and a grant that would assist with engineering and/or construction of connecting dead end water lines.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 100 hrs.

City of Salem Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the City with building surveys, plan writing, stakeholder surveys and focus group work associated with the Downtown Plan.

Project Leader: Bryan Hill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 200 hrs.

Town of Vinton Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the Town with developing a Grant Resource Guide (CDBG, VHDA, Transportation Alternatives, Urban Forestry, Historic Tax Credit, etc.,) and with amending its current zoning ordinance.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 95 hrs.

OTHER

National, State, Regional and Local Collaborative Efforts

Staff will promote and assist with regional planning initiatives by participating in the following local, regional, state and national organizations.

National

- Development District Association of Appalachia and Network Appalachia
- National Association of Development Organizations Board
  Southeastern Regional Directors Institute Board
- Rural Planning Organizations of America Council of Peers

State

- Bike Virginia Board
- Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
- Virginia Association of Zoning Officials
- Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Recreational Trails Advisory Committee
- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Statewide Multi-Modal and Public Space Design Guidelines committee

Regional

- Blue Ridge Interagency Council of Homelessness
- Blue Ridge Transportation Safety Board
- Cool Cities Coalition
- Council of Community Services Board
- Greater Roanoke Valley Asthma and Air Quality Coalition
- Hands on Blue Ridge Committee
- Healthy Roanoke Valley
- I-81 Corridor Coalition
- PATH Community Coalition
- Pathfinders for Greenways Board
- Regional Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Regional Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee
- Regional Stormwater Management Committee
- Regional Stormwater Technical Committee
- Regional Stormwater Citizen Advisory Committee
- Partnership for a Livable Roanoke Valley
- Roanoke Refugee Dialogue Group – Transportation Committee
- Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce Board
- Roanoke Regional Housing Network
- Roanoke Valley Area GIS Managers Users Group
- Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission
- Roanoke Valley Urban Forestry Council
- RSVP Advisory Council at the Council of Community Services
- Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce
- United Way of the Roanoke Valley Board
- United Way Community Investment Council Panel Member
- Upper Roanoke River Roundtable Advisory Committee
- Upper James River Resource Conservation and Development District (RC&D)
- Virginia Western Community College-Integrated Environmental Studies Advisory Group
- Virginia Western Community College – Geospatial Program Lay Advisory Committee

Local

- City of Roanoke Downtown Mobility Workgroup
- City of Roanoke School System ROTEC Advisory Committee
- Roanoke County Public Schools Technology Advisory Committee
- Salem Downtown Plan Advisory Committee
- Vinton Downtown Revitalization Committe

URBAN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Long-Range Transportation Planning

The Constrained Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Plan 2040 is expected to be approved by September 2015. Individual areas of focus follow:

1) **CLRMTP 2040: Approval and Endorsement:** All final plan preparation and public involvement/hearing activities associated with CLRMTP 2040 endorsement and approval by the RVTPO Policy Board.
2) **CLRMTP 2040:** Any necessary long-range plan amendments after endorsement and approval of CLRMTP 2040.
3) **Transportation Performance Measures Tracking:** Integration and tracking of appropriate long-range transportation planning performance measures into the CLMRTP 2040 process.
4) **Air Quality and Environmental Analysis:** All applicable air-quality or environmental analyses that may be required by the federal EPA. Currently, RVTPO is in an Ozone Early Action Compact – Early Action Plan area and is not subject to conformity analysis. This situation could change with the introduction of new federal standards which are anticipated in October 2015.
5) **Official Public Meeting Concerning Long-Range Planning Assumptions (Annual "Open House":** This will continue the series of yearly public meetings concerning the long-range planning process and its assumptions.
6) **Mode Choice Modeling Preparation:** Any activities necessary to develop a more formalized "mode choice" element, with the participation of VDOT and VDRPT, in anticipation of the CLRMTP 2045.
7) **Transportation and Land Use Archival System Maintenance:** Yearly update of the transportation and land use data archival system for updating transportation and land use data on a regular basis so that "snapshot" data analysis can be performed in future long-range transportation planning processes.
8) **LRTP Technical Work:** Any remaining Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ), model network or model application work need to be accomplished in FY2016.
9) **Kickoff of the CLRMTP 2045 Planning Process:** RVTPO develops a new CLRMTP every 4 years. Therefore, the next CLRMTP planning process begins immediately after the approval of the "current" CLRMTP.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Mark McCaskill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 810 hrs., FTA – 135 hrs., Local Governments – 105 hrs.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), Transportation Alternatives (TA) and Performance Measures Reporting

The TIP is updated every two years, with a major amendment in intervening years, and must be approved by the TPO's Policy Board and the Governor of Virginia. The Performance Measures tracking and reporting process will conform to all applicable state and federal regulations.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Cristina Finch(FTA), Bryan Hill(PL)
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 351 hrs., FTA – 90 hrs., Local Governments – 49 hrs.

Public Participation, Environmental Justice, Stakeholder Training and Seminars

RVTPO public and stakeholder involvement activities will include but are not limited to the following:

- RVTPO Public Involvement Policy Document Update
- RVTPO Title VI Policy Document Update
- Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings
- TPO Website Strategy:
- TPO Demographic Profiles Maintenance and Updates
- Webinars, Teleconferences and Seminars –

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Mark McCaskill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 444 hrs., Local Governments – 111 hrs.

Air Quality Planning

A new 8-hour Ozone standard is expected to be announced in October 2015. Staff is monitoring announcements and news concerning both fine particulate and Greenhouse Gasses (GHGs) in case the federal government requires transportation planning process compliance for those two classes of pollutants in addition to ground level Ozone. Immediate action will be necessary if the Roanoke Valley is deemed non-attainment for the new 8-hour Ozone standard.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Mark McCaskill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 167 hrs., Local Governments – 18 hrs.

Corridor Studies, Area Studies and Safety Planning

Staff will analyze the following corridors/areas which may include but is not limited to: access management, operations evaluation, transit/bicycle/pedestrian connections and parking availability/accessibility/issues:

- Route 419 Widening, Access Management, Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations from Route 220 to Route 221
- Brambleton Avenue Corridor Study
- Downtown Salem Parking Analysis/Study
- Botetourt County Transportation Section of Comprehensive Plan Phase II
- Exit 150 Small Area Study
- Prepare other intersection or corridor analysis as requested.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, and Counties of Roanoke and Botetourt
Project Leader: Mark McCaskill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 1,395 hrs., Local Governments – 155 hrs.

RVTPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

Staff will focus on non-motorized transportation planning and infrastructure related to non-motorized modes of transportation. The following activities will be included:

- Bicycle Accommodations for Vinton Major Corridors
- Pedestrian Performance Measures Data Collection
- Regional Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Board
- General, Mapping and Website Assistance to Local Governments and Greenway Commission
- Grant Assistance for Greenway Development
- Continued Greenway Monitoring and User Counts
- National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project Counts
- Walkability Audits
- Botetourt County Trails Plan Final Document and Adoption
- Tinker Creek Greenway Study – Phase I (FY 16) work

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Shane Sawyer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 531 hrs., FTA – 270 hrs., Local Government – 89 hrs.

General Technical Assistance & Technical Support Activities

Staff will research, develop, maintain, and analyze data for use in a variety of technical support and planning support activities. Work activities will be organized around the following subtasks. Any combination of subtasks may be completed in FY2016 as opportunities and needs arise; however, circumstances may not permit all subtasks to be finalized by the end of FY2016.

- ***General Technical Assistance*** will be provided to local governments, planners and citizens as requested.
- ***Technical Support Activities*** such as a variety of activities to support work program projects and/or the general planning process.
- ***Support to Statewide Multimodal Planning*** – as needed

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Staff
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 311 hrs., FTA – 135 hrs., Local Governments Local Governments – 49 hrs.

Public Transportation Planning Assistance

Staff will work with the two major public transportation agencies, Valley Metro (GRTC) – fixed route transit – and RADAR (UHSTS) – demand responsive transit regularly require transportation planning assistance to complete a variety of functions and plan for service enhancements including:

- ***Regional Transit Vision Plan –*** Staff will complete summaries of initial stakeholder involvement and data gathering and analysis and an examination of existing transit services and current funding sources. The Plan will be developed with further stakeholder involvement regarding the future vision for the region's public transit services and potential funding resources.
- ***Regional Transit Development Plans (TDPs)*** – Staff will provide support to Valley Metro and RADAR in the yearly update of the TDP.
- ***Regional Transit Demand Management Plan*** – Staff will provide assistance to RIDE Solutions to update the regional TDM Plan.
- ***Assistance with Transit Route Analysis and Mapping*** – Staff will provide transit route and schedule analysis, associated mapping, and assistance with the implementation of new or modified transit services.
- ***Assistance with Improving Bus Stops*** – Staff will provide assistance concerning the location, accessibility of and implementation of physical improvements to fixed-route bus stops and continue to provide technical support to implement the accessibility improvements to the Transportation Alternatives-funded project along Melrose Avenue.
- ***Human Services-Public Transit Coordinated Transportation Planning*** - Staff will provide assistance in coordinating human services transportation and will participate in related regional coordination meetings.
- ***Grant Assistance for Transit Development*** – Staff will assist Valley Metro and RADAR in identifying and pursuing local, state, federal and private grants and alternative funding sources for transit improvements and services.
- ***Passenger Rail and Public Transit Coordination*** – Staff will support the ongoing effort to provide passenger rail service in Downtown Roanoke in 2017 by working with VDRPT, the City of Roanoke and Valley Metro on related preparations including the establishment of a multimodal transportation station and planning for transfers to public transit and to rail.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Craig and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Cristina Finch
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: FTA – 1,367 hrs., Local Governments – 151 hrs.

Congestion Management Process (CMP) – Plan Maintenance

RVTPO's first CMP Plan was approved on January 23, 2013. Staff will provides for routine maintenance of the CMP planning process including any amendments, adjustments of updates of the plan and incorporation of new data or findings. A significant portion of this category will be focused on analyzing freight data and anticipating future congestion related impacts of freight transportation.

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Montgomery and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Mark McCaskill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 147 hrs., Local Governments – 16 hrs.

RURAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Rural Long Range Plan Project Prioritization

Staff will submit a prioritized list of projects for HB2 consideration and the Multi-Modal Transportation Plan to our District Planner by the second quarter of FY 16 and provide documentation of prioritization methodology used to develop the list.

Localities Served: City of Covington and Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig and Town of Clifton Forge
Project Leader: Bryan Hill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 40 hrs., Local Governments – 10 hrs.

Comprehensive Plan Updates

Staff will assist Botetourt County with an update to the Comprehensive Plan. The Rural Transportation Planning Assistance Program will be used to fund work on the transportation element of the plan, which will include the information and analysis as required in the Code of Virginia.

Localities Served: County of Botetourt
Project Leader: Bryan Hill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 127 hrs., Local Governments – 32 hrs.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

Staff will plan and develop a non-motorized transportation infrastructure, such as sidewalks, trails, greenways, bike lanes, and other facilities. This item will include the following projects:

- **Bicycle Route 76 Corridor Study** – Complete a corridor study of the road segments that make up the portion of U.S. Bicycle Route 76 within the region. The study will include an inventory of existing conditions and recommendations for safety, wayfinding, and spur routes to connect to other bicycle facilities. Phase two of the project may also include interactive online mapping of the corridor to help promote its usage.
- **Pedestrian Infrastructure Mapping and Inventory** – Continue mapping rural pedestrian infrastructure and identify gaps in the network. In FY16, the task will involve mapping sidewalks in the City of Covington. Provide VDOT with a shape file with lat/long locations to include whether the gap is located adjacent to the roadway.
- **Clifton Forge Trail Connection to Adjoining Counties** – Determine the feasibility of connecting trails from Clifton Forge to trails in Alleghany and Botetourt Counties.
- **Craig County Greenway Extension-Safe Routes to School Grant Program** – Assist Craig County in the preparation of a Transportation Alternatives Program grant application by which the County can improve bicycle and pedestrian environment and increase the number of students safely walking and biking to school. This enhanced safety will be developed by using existing greenway and shared path concepts.
- **Craig County Greenway Development** – Continue planning and development assistance for a greenway to connect downtown New Castle with the Craig County Sports Complex.
- **Botetourt County Trails Plan** - Final document and adoption.

Localities Served: City of Covington, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke, and Town of Clifton Forge
Project Leader: Shane Sawyer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 308 hrs., Local Governments – 77 hrs.

Corridor Studies and Traffic Analysis

Staff will analyze existing and future corridor conditions, as well as the evaluation of traffic conditions at specific intersections or proposed developments.

- **Town of Rocky Mount Wayfinding** – Assist the Town in the development of a wayfinding system.
- **Clifton Forge Sign Inventory** – Survey the roads and signs in Clifton Forge to develop a systematic approach of replacing all signage that is not compliant with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
- **Rocky Mount: North Main Traffic Circulation** – Assist town staff in exploring possible traffic flow alternatives at the Franklin/Main/Pell Street intersection.

Localities Served: Towns of Clifton Forge and Rocky Mount
Project Leader: Bryan Hill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 160 hrs., Local Governments – 40 hrs.

VDOT Outreach Meetings and Data Review

Staff will participate in outreach meetings and review data as requested by VDOT throughout the fiscal year pertaining to VTrans Update, compilation of available regional (current and future) land use GIS layers and attribute data for updating Statewide Planning System and Statewide Travel Demand Model, capture unavailable regional GIS land use and attribute data using VDOT templates, WEBEX Webinars (various topics on a monthly basis), HB2 Prioritization, Virginia Surface Transportation Plan Update (VSTP), Bicycle and Pedestrian planning, freight planning and other meetings as requested

Localities Served: City of Covington, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke, and Town of Clifton Forge
Project Leader: Bryan Hill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 120 hrs., Local Governments – 30 hrs.

General Technical Assistance

Staff will research, develop, maintain, and analyze data for use in a variety of technical support and planning support activities. Work activities will be organized around the following subtasks. Any combination of subtasks may be completed in FY2016 as opportunities and needs arise; however, circumstances may not permit all subtasks to be finalized by the end of the fiscal year.

- ***General Technical Assistance*** to local governments, planners and citizens as requested. Specifically in FY16, provide assistance to rural localities in the development of Urban Development Areas.
- ***Technical Support Activities*** – a variety of planning support activities to support work program projects and/or the general planning process (i.e. turning movement counts).
- ***Regional Greenways Mapping Assistance*** – GPS and mapping assistance to the Regional Greenway Commission and member governments as needed.
- ***Transportation Alternative Assistance*** – Local government assistance on the preparation of Transportation Alternative (TA) grants as needed.
- ***Review of Traffic Impact Analysis –*** Assist local governments in their review and consideration of traffic impact analysis, as required under Chapter 527 regulations.
- ***VTRANS Performance Measures -*** Assist VDOT with the collection of data relevant to VTRANS 2035 performance measures.

Localities Served: City of Covington, Counties of Alleghany, Craig and Roanoke and Town of Clifton Forge
Project Leader: Bryan Hill
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 182 hrs., Local Governments – 45 hrs.