

Regional Report Card

2006 Update



A compilation of various regional cooperative activities currently being undertaken by the counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke; the cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem; the towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton; and neighboring localities.

Prepared by the Roanoke Valley - Alleghany Regional Commission



REGIONAL REPORT CARD

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Prepared by the
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

*Serving the counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke;
the cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem; and the towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton.*

MISSION STATEMENT

The Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission serves its member governments, citizens, and businesses by actively promoting inter-jurisdictional communication, coordination, and cooperation on issues affecting the district and by providing local technical assistance.

OVERVIEW

In 2006, the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission began gathering information from its member jurisdictions to assess the level of regional cooperation. The Commission received numerous reports from local governments about the types of cooperative activities in which they are involved. From the material received, the staff of the Commission compiled this report, an update to the original 2002 Regional Report Card.

The purpose of the Regional Report Card is to address the lack of understanding about the level of regional cooperation taking place. The Report Card highlights how local governments are working together to address issues of concern to businesses and citizens.

Ninety-seven (97) multi-jurisdictional cooperative programs and/or projects are cited in the report. These activities range from two governments working together to involvement by ten or more governments on a specific activity. The report also highlights that local governments work cooperatively with numerous federal and state agencies on issues affecting this region.

The following list is a series of highlights from the new cooperative activities identified in this update to the Regional Report Card.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE

The Alleghany Highlands Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (AHCEDS) Committee was formed as a steering committee for the development of the AHCEDS document, a strategy aimed at documenting needs for which the community might apply for federal and/or state funding as well as coordinating regional economic development efforts. The AHCEDS Committee is composed of representatives from local government, local industry, local small business, workforce development, and economic development. This group will serve as the body that will monitor progress on CEDS implementation.

HIGHLANDS REGIONAL ENTERPRISE BUSINESS PLAN

The Highlands Regional Enterprise Business Plan (2005) was written and submitted to former Governor Mark Warner for consideration in the Governor's FY 2006-2008 Biennial Budget proposal. The plan featured a number of projects ranging from improving industrial sites with improved site infrastructure to funding for the Jackson River Scenic Trail. The development process involved participation from all the area local governments including Alleghany County, Bath County, the Town of Clifton Forge, and the City of Covington. The Highlands Regional Enterprise Business Plan projects were incorporated into the Alleghany Highlands Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document that was adopted by the region's local governments in June of 2006.

REGIONAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAYS

Household Hazard Waste Collection Days are free to the residents of the City of Roanoke, the Counties of Roanoke and Botetourt, and the Town of Vinton. Acceptable household hazardous wastes include motor oil, antifreeze, paints, varnishes, thinners, fluorescent bulbs, household cleaners, bleach, polishes, kerosene, etc.

The first of three regional household hazardous waste collection events scheduled for 2006 was held on May 7, at the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority's Transfer Station. Despite inclement weather, a total of 303 of the 360 residents who pre-registered actually participated in the event making it the largest turn out since the format changed to three collection events per year. In addition to disposing of household hazardous waste items, participants also received bags that contained information about alternatives to using hazardous chemicals in the home, storm water quality brochures, and prepaid recycling envelopes for printer cartridges and cell phones.

WESTERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL JAIL AUTHORITY

The Counties of Franklin, Montgomery, and Roanoke and the City of Salem formed the Western Virginia Regional Jail Authority to finance and establish the Western Virginia Regional Jail as well as to own and maintain the facility after it is constructed. The jail project has been described as a 600+ bed jail facility. The new facility is expected to ease overcrowding in the local jails of the localities participating in the authority. The 43-acre site located along the Roanoke River in the Dixie Caverns area of Roanoke County has been purchased and rezoned. A superintendent was also recently hired to oversee daily operations.

WESTERN VIRGINIA WATER AUTHORITY

The water and wastewater operations of the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County consolidated to become the Western Virginia Water Authority on July 1, 2004. The Western Virginia Water Authority provides water service to 155,000 citizens and wastewater service to more than 120,000 citizens in the city and county. This new entity is the only water authority in the Commonwealth formed from two existing entities to treat, deliver, and administer water and wastewater. The benefits of combining the two systems include a more dependable water and wastewater service in times of drought and significant cost savings by merging operations.

The cooperative activities cited in the “Report Card” are divided into ten (10) categories: Economic Development; Education; Environment; General Government; Libraries; Parks/Recreation; Public Safety; Public Works and Facilities; Social and Human Services; and Transportation. While reviewing the information from local governments, the Commission staff tried to organize the programs/projects under the above categories. Some activities could have fallen under multiple categories, so a best estimation about an appropriate category was made.

With the advent of additional venues for regional leaders to meet and discuss issues of regional significance, the level of regional cooperative action among local governments (and the business community) has grown significantly in the previous decade. Some of these venues include:

- (1) Regional Leadership Trips (initiated in 1997 by the Coalition for Economic Development as a means of illustrating how other regions are addressing issues that may have relevance to our region);
- (2) Mayors and Chairs meetings (regular meetings of the Mayors of the region's cities and towns and the Chairs of the county boards of supervisors that is coordinated by the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission);
- (3) Chief Administrative Officials (CAO) meetings (bi-monthly meetings of Chief Administrative Officials to discuss local government issues, recently expanded to include CAO's from the New River Valley); and
- (4) Regional Legislative Dinner (annual meeting with officials from the Roanoke Valley, Alleghany Highlands, and the New River Valley and with legislators to discuss issues of regional concern).

The Regional Commission is hopeful that this document will help to dispel the widely held idea that local governments do not and will not work together. The truth, as evidenced in this Regional Report Card, is that there is much cooperation going on in the region. In the future will there be more opportunities for even higher levels of regional cooperation? The answer is an unqualified "Yes". The Regional Commission feels that the sense of "regionalism" is continuing to grow and that we will see additional efforts in the future to work cooperatively on issues of regional concern.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Participants: City of Covington, County of Allegheny, and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: To help coordinate economic development efforts and obtain funding support from various federal and state resources.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Participants: City of Covington, County of Allegheny, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate.

Purpose: To plan and implement strategies for economic development in the Allegheny Highlands.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Participants: City of Covington and the County of Allegheny.

Purpose: To promote industrial development in the Allegheny Highlands area.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS REGIONAL ENTERPRISE ZONE

Participants: City of Covington, County of Allegheny, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate.

Purpose: Enables these jurisdictions to offer new and existing businesses within the Zone sites, special local and state incentives to expand existing businesses or to build new businesses in the Zone sites.

HIGHLANDS REGIONAL ENTERPRISE BUSINESS PLAN

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: To help ensure the retention of existing jobs as well as the creation of new employment opportunities.

JACK C. SMITH INDUSTRIAL PARK (MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARK DEVELOPMENT & REVENUE SHARING)

Participants: Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke.

Purpose: Both counties worked together in designing and funding the facility and revenue sharing agreement.

ROANOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSION

Participants: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke; and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton

Purpose: To provide a forum to promote inter-jurisdictional communication, coordination and cooperation on issues affecting the area and provide local technical assistance.

ROANOKE VALLEY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke; and area businesses and other organizations.

Purpose: To promote tourism and conventions in the Roanoke Valley and provide services to visitors.

ROANOKE VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Participants: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Franklin and Roanoke; and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: To market the Roanoke Valley to prospective businesses and promote expansion of existing businesses.

VINTON BUSINESS CENTER

Participants: County of Roanoke and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Both communities are working together in designing and funding this industrial/business park.

VIRGINIA'S FIRST REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY (MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL REVENUE SHARING)

Participants: Cities of Radford, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bland, Craig, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, Roanoke and Wythe; and the Towns of Dublin, Narrows, Pearisburg and Pulaski.

Purpose: Created to enhance the economic base for the member localities by developing, owning and operating one or more industrial parks/facilities on a cooperative basis involving member localities.

WEST PIEDMONT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Participants: Counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania; Cities of Danville and Martinsville; Town of Rocky Mount.

Purpose: Assist fledgling small businesses in the Southside region.

WEST PIEDMONT PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Participants: Counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania; Cities of Danville and Martinsville; Town of Rocky Mount.

Purpose: Promote cooperation between the local governments in the West Piedmont region.

WESTERN VIRGINIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Participants: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke; and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton.

Purpose: Develops policy and oversees workforce development initiatives in the Roanoke Valley/Alleghany region.

EDUCATION

ROANOKE VALLEY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke; and the Virginia Department of Education.

Purpose: Specialized regional center for the advanced study of science, mathematics, computer applications, and technology for high school students from the region.

ENVIRONMENT

BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem.

Purpose: Cooperation of law enforcement officials and environmental agencies to work together on the enforcement and deterrence of environmental crime.

CLEAN VALLEY COUNCIL

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke; and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Provides educational programming about litter prevention and reuse, recycling and reduction of the waste stream for all levels in both public and private schools.

ROANOKE VALLEY URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL

Participants: Roanoke Valley governments, Virginia Tech Extension Service, Virginia Department of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, and other groups.

Purpose: Informal group of urban forestry professionals who offer technical support to all Roanoke Valley governments on forestry-related issues. Offer assistance through grants, consultation and environmental education.

VALLEY BEAUTIFUL

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Funds tree planting efforts, promote yearly Arbor Day celebrations and helps member localities maintain recognition from the National Arbor Day Foundation as Tree City USA communities.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

GAIN SHARE AGREEMENT

Participants: County of Roanoke and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Localities will share in revenues received from construction and taxes on any new development in East Roanoke County. Will also share expenses in the development and marketing of the Vinton Business Center.

ROANOKE VALLEY CABLE TELEVISION

Participants: City of Roanoke, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: To provide cable service to the community using one company and to have a public access cable channel. An 11-member committee from the three localities fund and operate the educational and governmental channel from franchise fees collected for Cox Cable Roanoke, Inc.

LIBRARIES

ROANOKE VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, and the Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke.

Purpose: To share a library automation system, borrower's card, a delivery system among the libraries and all of their materials.

PARKS/RECREATION

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

Participants: Counties of Alleghany, Bath, Craig, Buena Vista; City of Covington and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: Offer youth baseball to the children of the region.

RECREATION SERVICES AGREEMENT

Participants: County of Roanoke and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Recreational facilities in Vinton are leased to Roanoke County. Roanoke County provides recreational and youth athletic programs for the Town of Vinton.

ROANOKE VALLEY GREENWAY COMMISSION

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Develops recommendations and assist in implementing greenway development in the Roanoke Valley.

ROANOKE VALLEY SKATE PARK

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Allows skate boarders and inline skaters an opportunity to sharpen their skills in a safe environment.

SALEM NCAA CIVIC FACILITIES

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, and the County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Jointly participate in the organization and funding of NCAA sporting events at the Salem Civic Center.

SANDLOT SUPERBOWL

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; the Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Franklin and Roanoke; and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Youth football play-off program is offered to youth, ages 6-13. Playoffs are offered at the end of each season and rotate between localities.

THERAPEUTIC RECRETION SERVICES

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: City residents with physical and mental challenges take part in programs offered by Roanoke County.

YOUTH RECREATION BASKETBALL

Participants: Counties of Alleghany and Bath; City of Covington and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: Jointly participate in the organization of youth basketball games within the region.

YOUTH RECREATION FOOTBALL

Participants: Counties of Alleghany and Bath; City of Covington and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: Jointly participate in the organization of youth football games within the region.

YOUTH RECREATION SOCCER

Participants: Counties of Alleghany and Bath; City of Covington and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: Jointly participate in the organization of youth soccer games within the region.

PUBLIC SAFETY

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS ENHANCED 911 COMMITTEE

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, Town of Clifton Forge, Alleghany County Sheriff's Department, Police Chiefs from the City of Covington and the Town of Clifton Forge, and Fire/Rescue representatives from Alleghany County and Covington.

Purpose: To implement E911 in each locality.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: City's fire and rescue to come into a certain designated area of Alleghany County for emergency calls.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS HUMANE SOCIETY

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: Management and control of stray dogs and cats and other animals brought to its animal shelter.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate.

Purpose: Works with emergency services issues in the area.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS REGIONAL JAIL

Participants: City of Covington and the Counties of Alleghany and Bath.

Purpose: Jail facility for the county and city -- accepts prisoners from Bath County and Clifton Forge.

ATF and DEA REGIONAL TASK FORCES

Participants: Roanoke Valley law enforcement agencies, ATF and DEA.

Purpose: Target serious crime in the Roanoke Valley and return seized money to local law enforcement efforts.

BOTETOURT-CRAIG REGIONAL JAIL

Participants: Counties of Botetourt and Craig.

Purpose: Jail facility for both counties.

CARDINAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING

Participants: City of Salem Police and 28 police/sheriff's agencies.

Purpose: Training academy for law enforcement personnel.

CLEARBROOK FIRE AND RESCUE

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Co-staffing of fire and EMS service.

COURT-COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROGRAM

Participants: Cities of Buena Vista, Covington, Lexington, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Alleghany, Bath, Botetourt, Craig, Roanoke and Rockbridge; and the Towns of Buchanan, Clifton Forge, Fincastle, Hot Springs, New Castle, Vinton and Warm Springs.

Purpose: Establishes and administers programs for local responsible offenders and pretrial services. It provides the criminal justice systems within participating localities with sentencing alternatives for certain non-violent felons and misdemeanors.

CRIMELINE

Participants: Roanoke Valley jurisdictions.

Purpose: Operate an anonymous telephone tip line and distribute information to area law enforcement agencies.

EXTRATERRITORIAL ARREST AGREEMENT

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: This contract allows agencies to enforce violations of the law that come to the attention of officers as they pass through the jurisdictions of the other departments.

FIRE AND EMS GAIN AGREEMENT

Participants: Roanoke County and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Town of Vinton provides Fire and EMS services to Eastern Roanoke County in exchange for a sum equal to one half of the costs of the annual salaries and fringe benefits of the Town's paid fire and EMS personnel.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE

Participants: Fire-EMS departments of the Cities of Roanoke and Salem.

Purpose: Respond to regional hazardous materials emergencies.

HOMELAND DEFENSE, CANINE, ANIMAL CONTROL AND MOUNTED PATROL TRAINING

Participants: City of Roanoke, attended by other jurisdictions.

Purpose: The City of Roanoke developed a complete Homeland Defense Training course, canine course and mounted patrol course that are being attended by the Virginia State Police and local law enforcement agencies from across the State.

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

Participants: All local police, fire, and emergency medical service providers; highway department representatives and towing/recovery specialists.

Purpose: Efficient response and management of highway crash scenes or other unusual occurrences on the highways of the area.

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS

Participants: Multiple local governments.

Purpose: Parties agree to lend or share resources in the event an unusual occurrence or local emergency.

ORGANIZED CRIME DRUG TASK FORCE

Participants: City, county and state law enforcement agencies in cooperation with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Purpose: Investigation of illegal drug related activity in the Roanoke Valley and surrounding areas.

POLICE ACADEMY TRAINING AGREEMENT

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: By mutual agreement, the County of Roanoke uses the Roanoke City Police Academy for recruit and in-service training for all officers.

POLICE ADMINISTRATORS' QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Participants: Roanoke Valley law enforcement agencies.

Purpose: Coordinate law enforcement efforts and solve any enforcement issues related to jurisdictional boundaries.

READ MOUNTAIN FIRE AND RESCUE

Participants: Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke.

Purpose: Volunteer staffing at facility that serves both jurisdictions.

REGIONAL DECAL ENFORCEMENT COMPACT

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke; and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Compact to enforce licensing ordinances.

REGIONAL FIREARMS TRAINING FACILITY

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: To train law enforcement personnel in firearms function and safety.

REGIONAL THEFT ASSOCIATION

Participants: All Roanoke Valley law enforcement agencies; New River Valley has a similar association of which the City of Salem is a member.

Purpose: To exchange information and identify patterns of theft activity that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

ROANOKE COUNTY E911 AGREEMENT

Participants: Counties of Floyd, Franklin and Roanoke.

Purpose: Roanoke County provides E911 service to Copper Hill in Floyd County and Franklin County provides service to Windy Gap.

ROANOKE VALLEY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Participants: Emergency Management Coordinators from the Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: To approach disaster management from a valley-wide aspect.

ROANOKE VALLEY FRAUD INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION

Participants: All Roanoke Valley law enforcement agencies.

Purpose: To provide an exchange of information among professionals to facilitate fraud investigations and provide prevention information to local businesses.

ROANOKE VALLEY JUVENILE DETENTION COMMISSION

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; and the Counties of Botetourt, Franklin and Roanoke.

Purpose: To establish policy and provide oversight for the Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Center.

ROANOKE VALLEY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Develop, maintain, and implement the Roanoke Valley Hazardous Materials Plan.

ROANOKE VALLEY MEDIA AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Participants: Local police, fire/EMS departments; sheriff's offices, and television, radio and print media.

Purpose: Facilitates the exchange of information between public safety agencies and the news media.

ROANOKE VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE-EMS TRAINING CENTER

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Recruit Firefighter Training academies for area career Fire-EMS departments; is available for all career and volunteer departments to utilize.

ROANOKE VALLEY SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Participants: City of Roanoke, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Houses and provides care and other services to animals delivered from participating jurisdictions under a public-private regional agreement.

S.A.L.T/TRIAD COUNCIL OF THE ROANOKE VALLEY

Participants: Roanoke Valley law enforcement agencies, local chapters of the AARP and other senior citizen service agencies.

Purpose: An agreement to determine the community needs of senior citizens and to develop strategies to minimize the potential for criminal victimization.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL CRIME PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

Participants: Cities of Danville, Lynchburg, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Botetourt, Franklin and Roanoke; Town of Vinton; Virginia Tech; and the Virginia State Police.

Purpose: Association of area crime prevention specialists who serve to provide a resource of educational information and training with the goal of reductions in criminal victimization.

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA REGIONAL 911 COMMITTEE

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, Montgomery and Roanoke; and the Towns of Blacksburg and Vinton.

Purpose: To inform member jurisdictions of technology and training as they relate to emergency 911 systems.

U.S. ATTORNEY'S TERRORISM TASK FORCE

Participants: Roanoke Valley jurisdictions.

Purpose: To protect the Roanoke Valley from terrorist activities.

VIRGINIA CRIMINAL INFORMATION NETWORK-REGIONAL GROUP

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Botetourt, Craig, Montgomery and Roanoke; Towns of Blacksburg and Vinton; and the Virginia State Police.

Purpose: Assists jurisdictions with problems or difficulties encountered in the use of the Virginia Criminal Information Network. Develops suggestions to increase levels of efficiency to the state administrative agency.

WESTERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL JAIL AUTHORITY

Participants: Counties of Franklin, Montgomery, and Roanoke; City of Salem.

Purpose: Establish a 600 bed regional jail to solve problems with overcrowding in local jail facilities.

PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate.

Purpose: Focuses on recycling efforts in the area.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS WATER AND SEWER AGREEMENT

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate.

Purpose: Purchase of water and sewer services.

BIOSOLIDS AGREEMENT

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Franklin.

Purpose: Deliver biosolids to farmers in Franklin County.

REGIONAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Participants: Counties of Roanoke and Botetourt; Cities of Roanoke and Salem and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: To eliminate the daily disposal of hazardous and toxic household material and to provide designated days for their disposal.

REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke; and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Provide regional wastewater treatment.

REGIONAL WATER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke; and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Water purchase and/ or sales agreements.

REGIONAL WATER/SEWER FEASIBILITY STUDY

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Study feasibility of a regional water/sewer authority.

ROANOKE REGIONAL LONG-RANGE WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

Participants: Cities of Bedford, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Franklin and Roanoke; and the Towns of Boones Mill, Buchanan, Fincastle, Rocky Mount, Troutville and Vinton.

Purpose: To examine and recommend various water supply alternatives to ensure adequate water for the region's future growth.

ROANOKE VALLEY REGIONAL STORMWATER PLANNING

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Create strategies for dealing with stormwater run-off regionally.

ROANOKE VALLEY RESOURCE AUTHORITY

Participants: City of Roanoke, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Regional public-private solid waste disposal partnership (uses rail as the sole transportation link between a solid waste transfer station and a landfill).

ROANOKE VALLEY WATER TRANSFER AGREEMENTS

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, and the County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Transfer of water in time of need.

WESTERN VIRGINIA WATER AUTHORITY

Participants: County of Roanoke and the City of Roanoke.

Purpose: To consolidate water authorities to provide water service to 155,000 citizens. Provide a more reliable and cost effective water authority.

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SERVICES

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Town of Clifton Forge.

Purpose: To address issues involving mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse programs in the Alleghany Highlands.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS HOUSING STEERING COMMITTEE

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate.

Purpose: Focuses on mutual goals and objectives for housing issues in the Alleghany Highlands.

ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER DEBIT CARD

Participants: Departments of social services of the City of Roanoke and the County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Coordinate efforts to prepare for the transition from paper food stamps to the use of an electronic benefit transfer debit card.

FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Participants: City of Salem Police, City of Roanoke Police, local social service agencies and business community members.

Purpose: Provides education, health care and temporary housing assistance to victims of domestic violence.

FIFTH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION DISABILITY SERVICES BOARD

Participants: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke; and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton.

Purpose: Develops and implements (in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services) a plan for addressing the problems of physically disabled residents.

FOSTER PARENT TRAINING PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Train foster parents and share foster homes if needed.

HOMELESS TASK FORCE OF THE ROANOKE VALLEY

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, and other local agencies.

Purpose: Work together to identify and solve problems associated with the homeless population in the Roanoke Valley.

ROANOKE AREA EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH GROUP

Participants: Local law enforcement agencies, mental health care professionals, magistrates and special justices.

Purpose: Recommends strategies for more efficient services relating to local mental health care and those suffering from illnesses.

ROANOKE VALLEY CONSORTIUM

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Seeks out regional efforts in the areas of health, dental, long-term disability and other forms of insurance that would be in the best interests of members.

TOTAL ACTION AGAINST POVERTY WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

Participants: Area law enforcement agencies, social service agencies, legal aid representatives.

Purpose: Examine the problems associated with the abuse of women.

TRANSPORTATION

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS TRANSPORTATION STEERING COMMITTEE

Participants: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate.

Purpose: Focuses on transportation issues in the Alleghany Highlands.

BLUE RIDGE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bedford and Franklin; and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Develops highway safety strategies and public information campaigns to reduce crashes and highway injuries/fatalities.

EARLY ACTION PLAN TASK FORCE

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke; Town of Vinton; Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; and organizations representing the business community and environmental groups.

Purpose: To examine various mechanisms (both programs and regulations) to reduce ground level ozone pollution in the region. This group assisted with the development of the Ozone Early Action Compact and the Ozone Early Action Plan.

ROANOKE VALLEY AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem; Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke; Town of Vinton; Valley Metro; Roanoke Regional Airport Commission; Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, and the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Purpose: The MPO serves as the forum for cooperative transportation decision-making in the Roanoke urbanized area.

ROANOKE VALLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSION

Participants: City of Roanoke and County of Roanoke.

Purpose: Owns and operates the Roanoke Valley Regional Airport.

VALLEY METRO

Participants: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke, and the Town of Vinton.

Purpose: Provide bus service to the Roanoke Valley.