

ROANOKE VALLEY- ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSION



FY 2008 Comprehensive Work Program

Adopted April 26, 2007

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

FY 2008 Comprehensive Work Program

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Overview	1
Service Area	2
Acronyms	3
Urban Transportation Projects	4
Rural Transportation Projects	11
Ride Sharing /Alternative Transportation Projects	14
Economic Development Projects	15
Environmental Projects	18
Community Development Projects	20
Regional Support Activities	21

Executive Director

Wayne G. Strickland

Administrative Staff

Olivia Dooley, Director of Finance
Jackie L. Pace, Office Manager

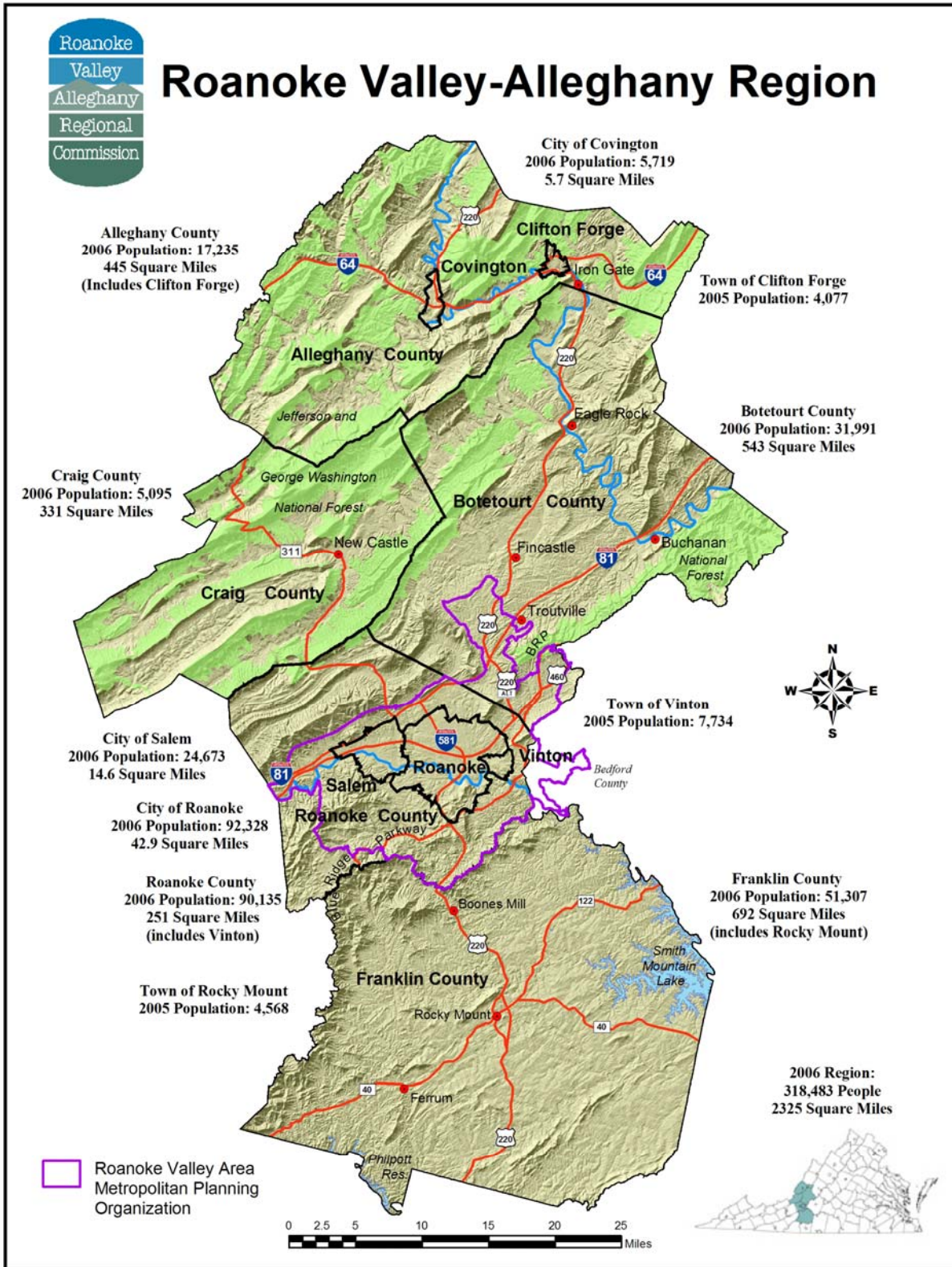
Planning Staff

Jake Gilmer, AICP, Regional Planner III
Jeremy Holmes, Alternative Transportation
Coordinator
John Hull, Economic Resources Planner
Mark McCaskill, AICP, Senior Planner
Matt Miller, Director of Information Services
Shane Sawyer, Regional Planner II
Eddie Wells, AICP, Senior Planner

ACRONYM DESCRIPTIONS

APA	American Planning Association
ARC	Appalachian Regional Commission
BCI	Bicycle Compatibility Index
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CEDS	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GIS	Geographic Information System
GRTC	Greater Roanoke Transit Company
IMPLAN	Impact Planning Software
ITS	Intelligent Transportation System
LOCI	Local Fiscal Impact Analysis (Impact Analysis for Planning)
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
PDC	Planning District Commission
PL	Planning funds (<i>Virginia Department of Transportation</i>)
RADAR	Roanoke Area Dial a Ride
RFP	Request for Proposal
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)
RVAMPO	Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, Town of Vinton)
RVEPC	Roanoke Valley Emergency Planning Committee
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
SPR	State Planning Research funds (<i>Virginia Department of Transportation</i>)
SRTS	Safe Routes to School
TE	Transportation Enhancement
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
VDEQ	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation

SERVICE AREA MAP



URBAN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Long-Range Transportation Planning

The primary activities of the FY2008 long-range planning project are acquiring stakeholder feedback and comments on the Current Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan, evaluating two planning scenarios using the 4-step model, developing a third scenario that will be evaluated in FY 2009, conducting an official public meeting concerning long range transportation planning assumptions and coordinating with the Regional (Rural) Long Range Transportation Planning process.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Mark McCaskill

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 829 hrs., FTA – 156 hrs.

Transportation Improvement Program

Staff will develop a FY 2007-2010 TIP that will comply with SAFETEA-LU provisions.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 450 hrs., FTA – 100 hrs.

Public Participation–Environmental Justice

Staff will update the current demographic profiles to the new 2035 “Study Area Boundary”. Staff will continue to engage neighborhood organizations and civic leagues in focus group settings and deploy the Electronic Kiosk that was developed in FY2006. Staff will conduct a review of input received and summarize in an end of year report. The RVAMPO website will be reevaluated and updated to ensure a smooth user interface.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Mark McCaskill

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 529 hrs., FTA – 100 hrs.

Ozone Early Action Plan Coordination (Strategic Plan Year I)

Staff will continue its efforts to keep the region in attainment with EPA’s National Ozone 8-hour standard and begin the groundwork for a voluntary regional compact concerning fine particulate matter (PM 2.5). An emphasis will be placed on website improvements geared towards Ozone and PM 2.5 information dissemination.

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 – 420 hrs.

U. S. 220 Corridor Operations Management Case Study – Botetourt County

Staff will present a case study which applies various ITS and/or operations management techniques to the US 220 corridor in Botetourt County , from Route 11 to the Town of Fincastle.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Jake Gilmer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 200 hrs., FTA – 50 hrs.

Human Services Transportation Plan

SAFETEA-LU requires a “Human Services Transportation Plan” to be in place before transit operators can access federal new starts funds. The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) completed the plan with a study area that encompasses the aforementioned agencies. While the current VTTI plan largely addresses SAFETEA-LU requirements for a “Human Services Transportation Plan” additional work may be needed to customize the results for the region.

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 – 140 hrs.

Bicycle Plan Coordination

Staff will partner with local government planning and public works departments to facilitate bicycle accommodation implementation. Staff will work with localities that use maintenance and paving schedules to encourage implementation of bicycle accommodations during the paving cycle. This will entail additional analysis using the BCI model and possibly entail additional fieldwork. Staff will work with local government stakeholders to review and consider amendments to the bicycle plan on an annual basis.

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 – 450 hrs.

Valley Metro On-Board Ridership Survey

The Greater Roanoke Transit Company (Valley Metro) is required to do a comprehensive ridership survey every five years. Staff will assist Valley Metro in the data collection and analysis of survey results. It is anticipated that RVAMPO staff will complete 50% of the on-board fieldwork while Valley Metro staff completes the remaining 50% out of their own funding sources and staff time.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Jeremy Holmes

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: FTA – 275 hrs.

Emergency Evacuation Plan for Downtown Roanoke

Activities for FY2008 will update the existing plan with a focused case study concerning the evacuation of Downtown Roanoke to sites within and outside of the region. Staff will coordinate with stakeholders such as: transportation officials, law enforcement, emergency responders, local officials, hospital officials and others to develop an evacuation plan that focuses on designating appropriate transportation routes and policies that facilitate safe and orderly evacuation.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 320 hrs., FTA – 50 hrs.

Freight Strategies Implementation

Staff will continue to proceed towards implementation of several of the strategies recommended in the 2003 “Regional Freight Study”, which identifies several innovative and strategic “next steps” to improve freight transportation in the region.

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 – 150 hrs.

Safety Planning

Staff will continue to attend the Blue Ridge Transportation Safety Board meetings for coordination of common transportation safety related issues. In addition, staff will continue to provide assistance to local governments, school systems and VDOT concerning Safe Routes to School Plans and funding.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 200 hrs.

General Technical Assistance & Technical Support Activities

RVARC 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:

General Technical Assistance to local governments, planners and citizens as requested.

Technical Support Activities – a variety of activities to support work program projects and/or the general planning process (i.e. travel time studies, turning movement counts).

Transportation Enhancement Assistance – as requested by local governments.

Minor Support to Statewide Multi-Modal Plan (VTRANS) Update – as needed.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Staff

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 479 hrs., FTA – 110 hrs.

Impacts of Passenger Rail

Staff will use characteristics presented in the 1998 Trans Dominion Corridor Study and recent update studies from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transit as a basis for estimated system performance and ridership levels. A final report will evaluate impacts of passenger rail at the site level, reconstructs system characteristics for a Roanoke to Washington D.C corridor, and evaluate impacts of potential underreported uses of under analyzed niche markets for passenger rail.

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 – 150 hrs., FTA – 150 hrs.

Use, Measures of Success and Implementation Tracking Study of Greenways

Staff will conduct fieldwork on existing greenways at various points throughout the fiscal year in order to estimate current usage trends of existing greenways, research other measures of success with which to evaluate existing greenways, track yearly progress towards the implementation of the Roanoke River Greenway portion of the Regional Greenway Conceptual Plan. Staff will also consult with local government staffs to produce a color coded map that depicts up to date progress towards greenway conceptual plan implementation and provide assistance in GIS Mapping, public information materials design assistance and other assistance as necessary.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Roanoke County, Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 500 hrs.

Transit Route Maps

Staff will update transit maps as requested by the Greater Roanoke Transit Company or RADAR.

Localities served: City of Roanoke, City of Salem, County of Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Matt Miller

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: FTA – 50 hrs.

Greater Roanoke Transit Company Financial Capacity Analysis

Staff will update the analysis of financial strengths and weaknesses and analyze GRTC's future financial needs.

Localities served: City of Roanoke

Project Leader: Olivia Dooley

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: FTA – 50 hrs.

I-81 Emergency Routing - Phase I

Staff will investigate traffic routing and detour issues in the event of partial or full lane closures on I-81. A committee of appropriate local government and emergency response stakeholders will guide staff activities on this project.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem and Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke

Project Leader: Matt Miller

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 335 hrs.

Economic Impact Analysis of Selected Projects from the Current Long-Range Transportation Plan

SAFETEA-LU established economic development as one of the planning factors that MPO planners must take into consideration. Staff will apply impact analysis to the financially constrained list of projects in the current regional long-range transportation plan. This will allow RVAMPO staff to test an economic analysis framework that could be useful in the next long-range transportation plan update.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: John Hull

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 210 hrs.

Seminars and Stakeholder Training

The American Planning Association (APA) produces a series of teleconferences on planning issues. RVAMPO staff will select relevant MPO related teleconferences and make arrangements to host a teleconference download site for local planners, citizens and other interested parties. A discussion will follow each teleconference concerning how RVAMPO staff may apply concepts from the teleconference in the long-range planning process.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 74 hrs.

Regional Parking Issues and Design

Staff will investigate regional design standards for parking lots from the environmental and pedestrian point of view. Topics for this item may include parking lot infill, water run off, bio-retention of runoff and safe pedestrian navigation of parking lots.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Matt Miller

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 367 hrs.

Route 116 Corridor Study Assistance

In 2007, Roanoke County will be undertaking a Community Plan Update for the Mount Pleasant area. Transportation facilities and needs are critical components of this effort. Staff will provide Corridor Assistance to Roanoke County including but not limited to: transportation data collection, corridor simulation and general transportation impacts analysis.

Localities served: County of Roanoke

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 300 hrs.

Transportation and Land Use Connection – Phase II

In FY 2007, staff completed Phase I, which analyzed the land use/transportation connection from the perspective of structures and improvements to parcels (i.e., year built). Phase II of the study will extend this methodology to analyze trends and changes in the parcel size and composition over time. Phase II will also develop data management systems and procedures to extend the analysis in future years.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt and Roanoke, and Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Shane Sawyer
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 323 hrs.

RURAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Regional Long Range Transportation Plan - Phase II

Staff will create a regional long-range plan in the rural portion of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) to complement the long-range transportation plan developed by the Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (RVAMPO) for the metropolitan area. This program is broken up into four phases across a multi-year effort that will result in a “safety conscious, GIS based long-range multi-modal plan (highways, bicycle/pedestrian, freight, aviation and transit) for the RVARC. The four phases are: Phase I – Goals and Data Collection (FY 2007); Phase 2 – Analysis and Problem Identification (FY 2008); Phase - 3 Public Outreach and Recommendation Development (FY 2009); and Phase 4 - Public Endorsement and Regional Adoption (FY 2010).

Localities served: City of Covington, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig Franklin and Roanoke, and Town of Clifton Forge

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 338 hrs.

Safe Routes to School Program Development

Staff will assist the Towns of Covington and Rocky Mount in the development of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programs for eligible K-8 schools; including application to VDOT SRTS Program and Project grants, and possible development of SRTS Comprehensive Plans. Staff will develop an application to VDOT Safe Routes to School Program Grant.

Localities served: City of Covington and Town of Rocky Mount

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 198 hrs.

Roadway & Intersection Improvements to CF Chessie Site

Staff will assist the Town of Clifton Forge and VDOT in identifying the off-site access road and intersection improvements needed to Route 696 (Selma-Low Moor Rd.) and Route 1002 (Richmond St.), which are the primary corridors into the proposed Chessie Work Station Rail Park development site. This project is identified for earmarked funds in SAFETEA-LU.

Localities served: Town of Clifton Forge

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 100 hrs.

Update to Craig Valley Scenic Trail Development Proposal

Staff will assist Craig County in updating the Scenic Trail Development Proposal to reflect changes in the project length and terminus in Craig County. Staff will evaluate the feasibility of an alternative trailhead location; including right-of-way and parking analysis, and evaluation of other off-site access improvements. This project is identified for earmarked funds in SAFETEA-LU.

Localities served: County of Craig

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 50 hrs.

Ozone Early Action Plan Coordination

Staff will continue its efforts to keep the region in attainment with EPA's National Ozone 8-hour standard.

Localities served: County of Botetourt

Project Leader: Mark McCaskill

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 5 hrs.

Multi-Modal Transportation Planning, Funding & Education

Staff will provide planning support to the local governments in the funding and implementation of the Rural Bicycle Plan, as well as multi-modal education and outreach.

Localities served: City of Covington, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke, Town of Clifton Forge

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 75 hrs.

Rural Transportation 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 FY2007 as opportunities and needs arise; however, circumstances may not permit all subtasks to be finalized by the end of FY2007.

- **General Technical Assistance** to local governments, planners and citizens as requested.
- **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 as needed.

- **Transportation Enhancement Assistance** – Local government assistance on the preparation of Transportation Enhancement (TE) grants as needed.
- **Review of Traffic Impact Analysis** – Assist local governments in their review and consideration of traffic impact analysis reports on land use proposals.

Localities served: City of Covington, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke, Town of Clifton Forge

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 145 hrs

Ridesharing/Alternative Transportation Projects

Ridesharing/Alternative Transportation Projects

Continue to operate the region's RIDE Solutions Program. Continue to seek opportunities to create a greater public awareness of commuting options. Work with individual citizens, employers, and local governments to promote alternative transportation. Work with large employers to encourage their employees to use alternative modes of transportation, such as carpooling, bus, telecommuting, and vanpooling. Work with employers to offer alternative transportation benefits to employees. Use employers as communication channels to educate employees about ridesharing and its benefits. Manage the Ride Solutions database, web pages, member's needs, grantwriting, bookkeeping, advertising, public outreach, and information requests. Ride Solutions also provides survey and statistical analysis for the region's public transportation and park-and-ride systems.

Localities served: Cities of Covington, Radford, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Montgomery and Roanoke, Towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Clifton Forge, Dublin, Pearisburg, Rocky Mount and Vinton

Project Leader: Jeremy Holmes

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Rideshare – 1,386 hrs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Greater Allegheny Highlands Region Tourism Trail

Commission staff will develop a brand/identity, and marketing plan for a tourism trail that will link several tourist assets in the region together with a common theme.

Localities served: City of Covington, Counties of Allegheny, Bath, Botetourt, Craig and Highland, Towns of Clifton Forge, Fincastle, Iron Gate, Monterey and New Castle

Project Leader: John Hull

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ARC GRANT – 256 hrs.

Allegheny Highlands Cluster/Target Industry Analysis

Staff will conduct an analysis of cluster concentration, wages within clusters, employment growth within clusters, change in industry concentration indicators and practical support systems that exist.

Localities served: City of Covington, County of Allegheny, Town of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate

Project Leader: John Hull

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ALLEGHANY FOUNDATION – 365 hrs.

Allegheny Highlands Telecommunications/Broadband Plan

Staff will assist the County of Allegheny and the City of Covington in creating a Community Telecommunications Plan if requested. Staff will likely attend meetings, work with consultants, and create broadband infrastructure maps as part of a broader regional effort to improve broadband access.

Localities served: City of Covington, County of Allegheny, Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate

Project Leader: Matt Miller

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ARC – 150 hrs.

Pursue Designation as an Economic Development District (Strategic Plan Year I)

Staff will establish the Regional Commission board as the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Committee, and establish a working group of economic development groups to assist in the development of the CEDs.

Localities served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Allegheny, Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke and Towns of Clifton Forge, and Vinton

Project Leader: Wayne G. Strickland

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 50 hrs.

Alleghany Highlands CEDS Implementation

Staff will assist localities and the Alleghany Highlands CEDS Committee with implementation and grantwriting to implement recommendations in the CEDS. Staff will coordinate quarterly meetings and submit the required annual report to the United States Economic Development Corporation.

Localities served: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate

Project Leader: John Hull

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ARC – 127 hrs.

CSX Rail Yard Redevelopment

Staff will assist the Town of Clifton Forge with the implementation of the CSX Rail Yard Redevelopment project. This will include assistance with meeting FHWA and VDOT guidelines for use of a \$1 million appropriation from the Federal Transportation Bill; assistance with identification of additional funding sources; and technical assistance related to site planning and marketing.

Localities served: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, Town of Clifton Forge

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ARC – 100 hrs.

Covington Economic Development Assistance

- Blighted Structure Incentive Program - Staff will assist with creating an incentive program to help reduce the number of blighted structures.
- Assistance with Community Development Authority - Staff will provide technical assistance in working with the city, developer and attorney on any specific economic development projects.
- Assistance with Historic Downtown Revitalization - Staff will develop a program and printed informational piece to be presented to downtown property owners on the historic tax credit program.

Localities served: City of Covington

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ARC – 150 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: John Hull

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 100 hrs.

LOCI

Staff will continue to build local profiles and use software to assist with determining the fiscal impacts of new housing developments, new commercial developments, and new industrial uses.

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: John Hull

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 100 hrs.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Greater Roanoke Regional Water Supply Planning Coordination Phase II (Strategic Plan Year 2)

Staff will assist participating localities in applying for and coordinating a Regional Water Supply Planning Grant from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and assist in development of a Regional Water Supply Plan Phase II that meets the criteria and conditions established in the Commonwealth's Local and Regional Water Supply Planning Regulation.

Localities served: Cities of Bedford, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke, Towns of Boones Mill, Buchanan, Fincastle, Rocky Mount, Troutville and Vinton

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 100 hrs.

Alleghany Regional Water Supply Planning Coordination Phase I (Strategic Plan Year 1)

Staff will meet with local government officials to determine the desire to pursue a regional approach to water supply planning in the Highlands. Staff will develop a scope of work for Phase I of the project and make an application for planning funds from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

Localities served: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DEQ – 150 hrs.

Roanoke Regional Storm Water Management Committee (Strategic Plan Year 1)

Staff will establish a committee of stakeholders to gauge government commitment to implementing the 1997 Roanoke Valley Regional Storm Water Management Plan.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Franklin and Roanoke and the Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Wayne G. Strickland

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 24 hrs.

Total Maximum Daily Load Reports (Strategic Plan Year I)

Staff will coordinate Total Maximum Daily Load analysis of stream segments in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

Localities served: City of Covington, County of Alleghany, Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DEQ – 20 hrs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Assistance to the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Task Force on Homelessness

Staff will assist the task force with expansion into the Highlands, arranging and facilitation of regional meetings.

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: RVARC – 60 hrs.

Regional Hazardous Materials Plan Update

Staff will assist the Roanoke Valley Emergency Planning Committee (RVEPC) in the update of the Roanoke Valley Hazardous Materials Plan as mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Localities served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 200 hrs.

Zoning Ordinance Update

Staff will assist the Craig County Planning Commission in updating the zoning ordinance.

Localities served: County of Craig

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ARC – 100 hrs.

Assistance with the Craig County Rural Health Care Facility

Staff will assist in the administration of a CDBG grant, which will help fund the new facility.

Localities served: County of Craig

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: CDBG – 400 hrs.

REGIONAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Implementation of the Liaison Proposal (From the Strategic Plan)

Each staff member will be assigned to serve as a “liaison” to a specific local government within the region. The designated staff member will attend council or board meetings, or other meetings deemed important by the member government on a schedule established by the local government and the staff.

Project Leader: Wayne Strickland

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 320 hrs.

Regional Education Program for Elected Officials and Business/Civic Leaders (Strategic Plan Year I)

Staff will educate newly elected officials and others serving in leadership in public, private and non-profit sectors about various aspects related to the function and operations of local government, as well as expose them to the many organizations which exist to support their economic development and community development efforts. Staff will offer a seminar that discusses the roles and activities of significant regional organizations (i.e., Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission, Roanoke Valley Economic Development Partnership, Downtown Roanoke Inc., Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, Western VA Workforce Development Board and Chambers of Commerce).

Project Leader: Wayne Strickland

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 34 hrs.

Public Relations and Outreach

Continue with publication of brochures, newsletters, website update, and continue outreach activities.

Project Leader: Jackie Pace

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 49 hrs.

Regional Leadership Collaboration

Coordinate and facilitate regular meetings of city/town Mayors and Chairs of the Boards of Supervisors as well as chief administrative officials in the region. Arrange and facilitate Regional Summit meetings among local elected officials and local government administrators as needed.

Project Leader: Wayne Strickland

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 120 hrs., ARC – 52 hrs.

Regional Planners Training

Coordinate and facilitate training sessions with regional planning staffs using American Planning Association material on relevant subjects.

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: ARC – 20 hrs.

NRV & Higher Education Linkages (Strategic Plan Year I)

Staff will develop stronger relationships between the Planning Districts in the New River and Roanoke Valley – Alleghany regions, which will also help strengthen relationships among local governments. Staff will hold a meeting between the Chairs and Executive Directors of the PDCs to discuss how to pursue stronger relationships between PDCs.

Project Leader: Wayne G. Strickland

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 12 hrs.

State Data Center

Continue role as regional clearinghouse for demographic and economic development information and related data, includes census 2010 coordination and comment.

- 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.
- Regional Planning Academy – Staff will continue support of the Regional Citizens Planning Academy. The Academy offers specialized courses to citizens on all aspects of planning and development with a special emphasis on regionalism and specific activities and projects in which the Regional Commission is involved.

Project Leader: Matt Miller

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 250 hrs., ARC – 120 hrs.

Grant Writing

The Commission 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.

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 50 hrs., ARC – 250 hrs.

General Technical Assistance

RVARC staff will research, develop, maintain, and analyze data for use in a variety of technical support and planning support activities.

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: RVARC – 50 hrs., ARC – 120 hrs.