

ROANOKE VALLEY- ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSION



FY 2012 Comprehensive Work Program

Adopted May 26, 2011

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

FY 2012 Comprehensive Work Program

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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, Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (RVAMPO) Policy Board, regional economic development-related organizations and staff. The Commission and RVAMPO review and rank projects 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.

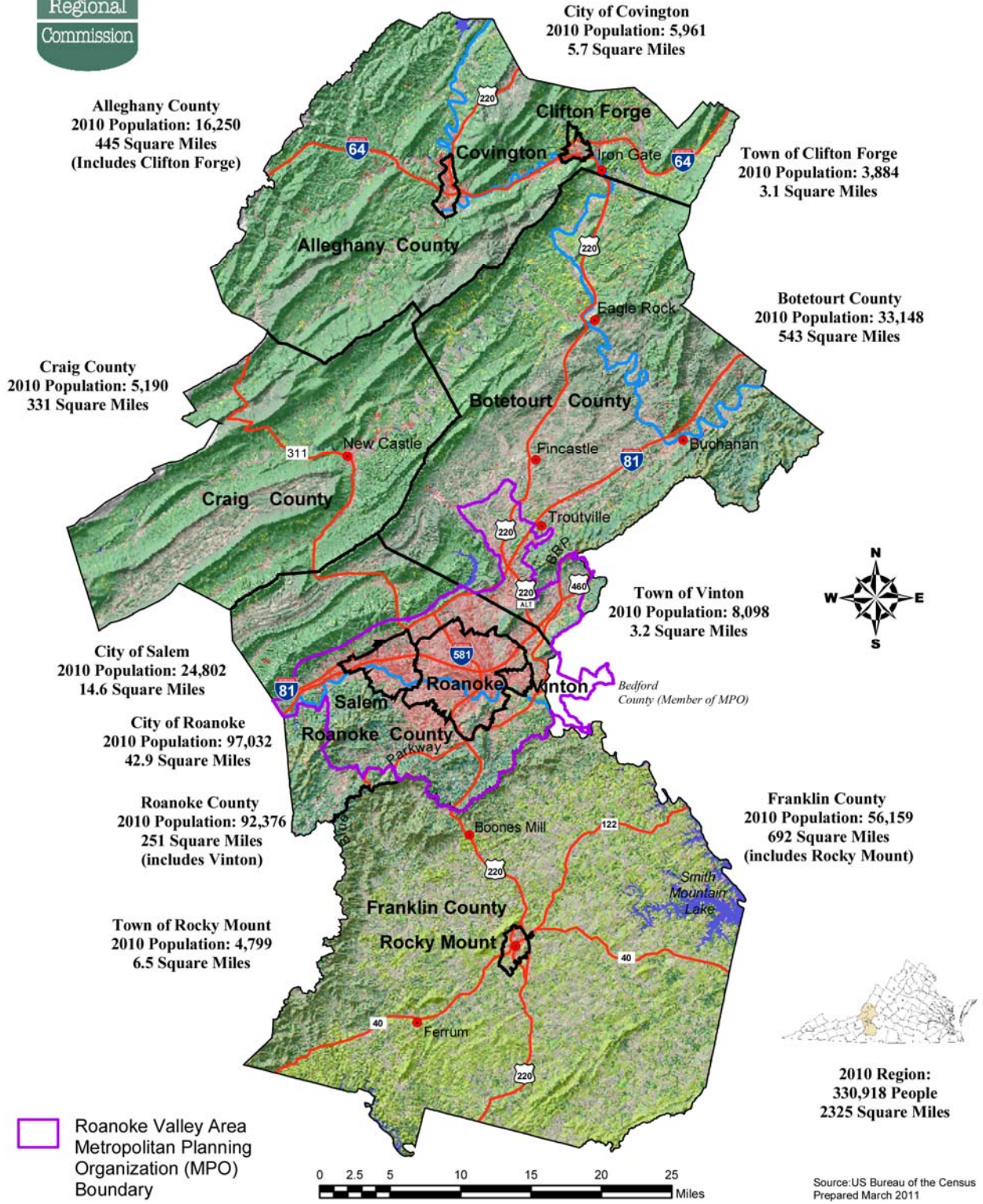
The work program is revised annually and may be amended as deemed necessary by the member governments that we serve.

Members of the FY 2012 Work Program Committee:

Carolyn Barnette (Alleghany County)
Kenny Sexton (Botetourt County)
Jimmy Houff (Town of Clifton Forge)
Kim Warlitner (City of Covington)
Jennifer Durling (Craig County)
Chris Whitlow (Franklin County)
Charlotte Moore (Roanoke County)
Chris Morrill (City of Roanoke)
James Ervin (Town of Rocky Mount)
Jane Johnson (City of Salem)
Chris Lawrence (Town of Vinton)



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region



ACRONYM DESCRIPTIONS

APA	American Planning Association
ARC	Appalachian Regional Commission
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CEDS	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
CLRTP	Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan
CoSS	Corridors of Statewide Significance
CTB	Commonwealth Transportation Board
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality
DHCD	Department of Housing & Community Development
DMME	Department of Mines, Minerals & Energy
EDA	Economic Development Administration
EDD	Economic Development District
EECBG	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GHG	Green House Gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
HUD	Department of Housing & Urban Development
IMPLAN	Impact Planning Software
ITS	Intelligent Transportation System
LRTDMP	Long Range Transportation Demand Management Plan
L RTP	Long Range Transportation Plan
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
PDC	Planning District Commission
PL	Planning funds (<i>Virginia Department of Transportation</i>)
PM	Particulate Matter
PRE-NEPA	Pre-National Environmental Policy Act
RADAR	Roanoke Area Dial a Ride
RLRP	Rural Long Range Transportation Plan
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

ACRONYM DESCRIPTIONS (cont.)

SPR	State Planning Research funds (<i>Virginia Department of Transportation</i>)
TAZ-UP	Update of Transportation Analysis Zones
TE	Transportation Enhancement
TDM	Transportation Demand Management
TDP	Transit Development Plan
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TMA	Transportation Management Area
VAPDC	Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation
VDRPT	Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transit
VTRANS	Virginia Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan

REGIONAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES



(Projects involving two or more localities)

Regional Sustainable Communities Grant

Staff will work with the Roanoke Area Sustainability Consortium to develop a coordinated framework and plan that will integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation and infrastructure investments in the Region.



Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke and Town of Vinton

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: HUD – 1,010 hrs.

Pursue Designation as an Economic Development District

Staff will work with the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) committee to monitor implementation of the CEDS and to assist localities with implementation. This project will also involve the continued coordination of the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy process, as well as general technical assistance and grant-writing assistance to local economic development agencies. Also included are all administrative steps necessary to pursue designation as an Economic Development District.

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

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DHCD – 245 hrs., EDA - 245 hrs.

Appalachian Regional Commission

Staff will assist the Local Development District to establish and expand economic development services in its area that are deemed to be useful and pertinent to the accomplishment of the objectives and purposes of Section 302 of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965.

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

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 430 hrs., ARC – 430 hrs.

Redistricting Assistance

Staff will assist localities with redistricting assistance relating to the 2010 Census as requested.

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 – 40 hrs., ARC – 30 hrs.

Regional Recycling Study

Staff will assist Botetourt County with research and technical assistance on the feasibility of curbside recycling service. Staff will also assist Town of Clifton Forge through surveying and other means to determine the level of interest in and type of recycling options best suited to the Town and its residents with goal to increase recycling using both public and private sectors. Both projects will be studied in the context of existing and potential municipal recycling programs to determine the feasibility of a regional recycling program.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke, Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton

Project Leader: Jeremy Holmes

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DHCD – 140 hrs., ARC - 40 hrs.

EECBG Grant Reporting

Staff will submit required ARRA Financial Status Reports (SF-425) and progress and financial reports to the Department of Mines, Mineral & Energy quarterly for the EECBG Grants that were awarded in March 2010.

Localities Served: RVARC

Project Leader: Olivia Dooley

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DMME (ARRA) – 92 hrs.

Volunteers for Energy Program

Using federal energy grant funding, staff will develop a new energy efficiency program that utilizes retired engineers and scientists to provide confidential and nonregulatory pollution prevention and energy efficiency assessments to businesses and institutions in the region. Volunteer assessors will identify utility cost-cutting measures through on-site energy and water efficiency auditing, strategic energy management planning, technical assistance, solid waste reduction, and project implementation guidance. No-cost technical assistance and training will be provided to industries, businesses, and public facilities, including K-12 schools and local governments.



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: Jeremy Holmes

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DMME (ARRA) – 1,513 hrs.

Ridesharing/Alternative Transportation Projects

Staff will continue to operate RIDE Solutions, the regional 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:



- Improve commuter assistance with move to a *Smart Trips*-style commute options product and improved website. *Smart Trips* would expand our commuter service offerings beyond carpool ridematching to include a customized trip planner including bicycle, telework, and multimodal options. The product would also include a customized impacts calculator, indicating the commuter's savings in both dollars and environmental impacts.
- Promote transportation demand management 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.
- 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 database 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.
- Determine the demand for possible rideshares for both in-commuters from the Roanoke Valley to Franklin County's major employers and out-commuters from Franklin County to Roanoke Valley major employers. Also include Rocky Mount.
- Support the City of Roanoke's Downtown Mobility Workgroup with a Downtown Roanoke parking analysis.
- Pursue integration of TDM data into the regional Multiple Listing Service (MLS) database for real estate agencies.
- Organize and promote regional Bike Month events.
- Concentrate program promotion into the rural parts our service area, with particular emphasis on the Alleghany Highlands, Clifton Forge, Covington, and northern Botetourt County.

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

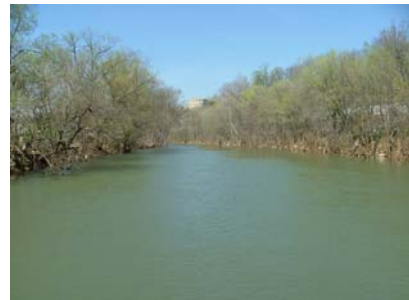
Project Leader: Jeremy Holmes

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: DHCD – 442 hrs., VDRPT – 1,768 hrs.

Water Supply Planning Coordination

Staff will continue coordination efforts with participating localities and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality in development of the Regional Water Supply Plans that meet the criteria and conditions established in the Commonwealth's Local and Regional Water Supply Planning Regulation (9 VAC 25-780).

Localities Served: Cities of Bedford, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Franklin and Roanoke, Towns of Boones Mill, Buchanan, Fincastle, Rocky Mount, Troutville and Vinton City of Covington, County of Alleghany, Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate County of Craig and Town of New Castle



Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 35 hrs., ARC 15 hrs.

Roanoke Regional Stormwater Management Committee

Staff will continue support of the Roanoke Regional Stormwater Management Committee to gauge government commitment to pursuing implementation of a Regional Storm Water Management Process.



Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Franklin and Roanoke and the Town of Vinton
Project Leader: Wayne Strickland
Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 24 hrs.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation

Staff will update the current Regional Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan and monitor the implementation as required by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Staff will complete the Annual Report and Mitigation Strategies Spreadsheet.

Localities Served: Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke and the Towns of Clifton Forge and Vinton

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 10 hrs., VDEM – 40 hrs.

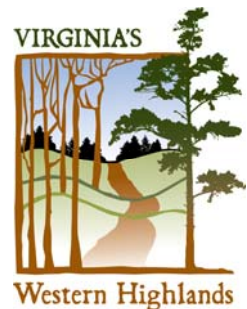
Regional Tourism Project

Staff will continue to support tourism initiatives with grant writing and coordination of project activities.

Localities Served: City of Covington, Counties of Alleghany, Bath, Craig and Highland, and Towns of Clifton Forge, Iron Gate, Monterey and New Castle

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 42 hrs., ARC - 43 hrs.



Support for Community Trade Adjustment Assistance

Staff will support the Western Virginia Transportation Equipment Manufacturing Competitiveness Initiative (TEMCI) to increase competitiveness of existing industry, support regional partnerships, and facilitate increased public and private sector collaboration.

Localities Served: New River Valley EDD, Mount Rogers EDD, RVARC EDD

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: EDA – 25 hrs.

Regional Housing Assistance

Staff will continue to work with the Roanoke Regional Housing Network to address housing issues impacting the region.

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: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments - 25 hrs.

Assistance to the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Advisory Council on Homelessness

Staff will continue coordination of the Advisory Council and complete other 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: DHCD – 70 hrs.

Analysis of Regional Work Force

Staff will work with the Roanoke Regional Partnership and other organizations in examining labor force related issues.

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: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 25 hrs.

Regional Report Card

Staff will coordinate and facilitate regular electronic updates and postings on blog about regional collaboration.

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: Jeremy Holmes

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 25 hrs.

Regional Leadership Collaboration

Staff will coordinate and facilitate regular meetings of area Mayors and Chairs, as well as chief administrative officials in the region. Staff will plan the annual Leadership trip which will occur in the Fall of 2011 to Greenville, South Carolina.

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 – 48 hrs.

Regional Planners Training

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 – 30 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: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: As needed.

Regional Government GIS Users Group

Staff will host quarterly meeting of GIS personnel from local governments and the Western Virginia Water Authority. Regional and cooperative issues to be discussed.



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: Matt Miller

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 20 hrs.

State Data Center

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

- Disseminate data from the 2010 Census and American Community Survey.
- 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 – 75 hrs., Local Governments – 75 hrs.

Public Relations and Outreach

The staff will continue with publication of brochures, newsletters, website update, social media and other outreach activities to promote activities of the Commission.

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 – 100 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 – 230 hrs.

General Technical Assistance

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

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 – 319 hrs.



Alleghany General Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the County with review and update of its comprehensive plan.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Staff will review current Hazardous Materials Plan and revise/update as necessary to provide a functional and effective addition to the County's Emergency Operations Plan.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 50 hrs., ARC – 50 hrs.

Botetourt County Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the County with a review and amendment to its zoning ordinance to incorporate recommendations of the recently updated Comprehensive Plan.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Staff will assist the County with research and technical assistance to develop a wind ordinance.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Staff will assist the County with mapping disaster-response and recovery related information. Information will include flood prone roads, discrete threat points, evacuation areas, Fire/EMS buildings, shelters, available heavy equipment contractors, etc.

Project Leader: Matt Miller

Staff will provide technical support to the Town of Troutville in implementing its Strategic Plan.

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 28 hrs., ARC – 28 hrs.

Clifton Forge Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the Town with an update to its comprehensive plan to reflect the changes in demographics, housing and infrastructure.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells



Staff will assist the Town with evaluating current library operations and identify changes desired/needed to expand use and image of the library.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 15 hrs., ARC – 15 hrs.

Covington Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the City with review and update of city zoning ordinance to examine barriers and obstacles to CBD redevelopment and make recommendations about to overcome barriers.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 7.5 hrs., ARC – 7.5 hrs.

Craig County Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the County with an update to its Comprehensive Plan.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 10 hrs., ARC 10 hrs.

Franklin County Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the County and the Town of Rocky Mount with a study of residential, commercial and industrial demand for natural gas in the U.S. 220 corridor.

Project Leader: Matt Miller

Staff will evaluate the Smith Mountain Lake’s visitation and residential development impacts, develop economic impact models for the different populations groups. This information will project changes into a short report that can be used by investors, businesses, residents and visitors.

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 100 hrs.

City of Roanoke Urban Tree Canopy Plans



Staff will assist the City with technical assistance and support for the Urban Tree Canopy Plan.

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 30 hrs.

Vinton Technical Assistance

Staff will assist the Town in the development of loan and grant resource options for development projects identified from the Downtown Master Plan, including completion of any available grant applications. Staff will also serve on the Vinton Downtown Revitalization Committee.

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Staff will assist the Town with finding resources to restore Glade Creek to a native trout stream including stream bank restoration, riparian buffer protection and riparian buffer reforestation.

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: Local Governments – 50 hrs.





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

- National Association of Development Organizations Livability Group
- National Association of Development Organizations Board
- National Association of Development Organization Rural Planning Organization Council of Peers
- Southeastern Regional Directors Institute Board

State

- American Planning Association, Virginia Chapter: New River Valley - Roanoke Section Director
- Bike Walk Virginia Board
- Regional Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan, advisory staff
- Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
- Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions Strategic Planning Committee
- Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions GIS/Technology Committee-Chair
- Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions Transportation Committee
- Virginia Citizens Planning Education Association of Virginia Board of Directors
- Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Recreational Trails Advisory Committee
- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Statewide Multi-Modal and Public Space Design Guidelines committee
- Virginia GIS Conference 2011 Planning Committee

Regional

- AECP/ES Green Living and Energy Expo Planning Committee
- Arts Council of the Blue Ridge Board
- Arts Council of the Blue Ridge
- Blue Ridge Transportation Safety Board
- Citizens for Clean and Green Sustainability Committee
- Council of Community Services Board
- Greater Roanoke Valley Asthma and Air Quality Coalition
- I-81 Corridor Coalition Environmental Committee
- Jackson River TMDL Committee, advisory staff
- Local Emergency Management Plan Committee, advisory staff
- Pathfinders for Greenways Board
- Regional Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Regional Sustainability Committee
- Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce Board
- Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Committee
- Roanoke Regional Housing Network
- Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Advisory Council on Homelessness
- Roanoke Valley Area GIS Managers Users Group
- Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission
- Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission - Standards and Design Sub-committee
- Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission/Pathfinder - Joint Marketing, PR, and Education Committee
- Roanoke Valley Urban Forestry Council
- Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce Board
- Senior Citizens Coordination Council
- Trans-Dominion Express Committee
- United Way of the Roanoke Valley Board
- United Way of the Roanoke Valley Community Impact Cabinet
- United Way of the Roanoke Valley Community Impact Panel
- Upper Roanoke River Roundtable Advisory Committee
- Upper James River Resource Conservation and Development District (RC&D)
- Virginia Western Community College Environmental Specialization Advisory Committee
- Virginia Western Community College GIS Advisory Committee
- Virginia Western Community College GIS Specialization Advisory Committee

Local

- Botetourt County Tourism Plan update committee
- Council of Community Services Volunteer Roanoke Valley Committee
- City of Roanoke Bicycle Friendly Community Advisory Committee
- City of Roanoke Bicycle Friendly Community Advisory Committee – Increasing Bicycle Use Subcommittee
- City of Roanoke Downtown Mobility Workgroup
- City of Roanoke School System ROTEC Advisory Committee
- City of Roanoke School System ROTEC Business and Industry Committee
- Roanoke Valley Cool Cities Coalition
- Vinton Downtown Revitalization Committee
- Virginia's Western Highlands Travel Council

URBAN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS



Long-Range Transportation Planning

Staff will provide any additional activities required for the adoption of the Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan 2035, prepare LRTP process for TMA designation, prepare LRTP process for traditional ozone non-attainment designation, hold official public meeting concerning long-range planning assumptions, new LRTP (2040) Planning Process, and continue with scenario planning development, transportation and land use archival system maintenance.

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 – 937 hrs., FTA – 90 hrs., Local Governments – 114 hrs.

Transportation Improvement Program

Staff will provide for the maintenance and amendment of the current regional Transportation Improvement Plan. This task will require active support of all RVAMPO committees and coordination with member agencies. Some of the major activities that will be undertaken as part of this task include amending the current TIP as needed, preparation of the RVAMPO Self-Certification Statement and activities to assure that the Statement is being followed, and the preparation of an annual listing of projects for which federal funds have been obligated in the previous year.

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

Project Leader: Cristina Finch

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 228 hrs., FTA – 18 hrs., Local Governments – 27 hrs.

Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant, Public Participation, Environmental Justice, Stakeholder Training and Seminars

Staff will employ a large public and stakeholder engagement effort that includes various elements such as touch screen kiosks, facilitated stakeholder group meetings, large public and community meetings, and electronic engagement methods. The intention is that the Sustainable Communities outreach will also serve as a forum where public and stakeholder input concerning regional transportation issues will also be obtained, thereby, extending the reach and effectiveness of the traditional RVAMPO public involvement 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 – 626 hrs., Local Governments – 70 hrs.

Air Quality Planning

Staff will focus on implementation of transportation and transportation-related strategies outlined in the adopted Ozone Early Action Plan, monitor the voluntary PM 2.5 trends with regards to continued air quality compliance, monitor federal and state policies concerning Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and their possible impact on the RVAMPO planning process and initiation of a non-attainment stakeholder and planning process pending designation.

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 – 333 hrs., FTA – 45 hrs., Local Governments – 42 hrs.

Corridor Studies, Area Studies and Safety Planning

Staff will analyze the following corridors and areas that were suggested by local governments and other stakeholders in the FY2012 work program development process. Analysis of each corridor or area may include but is not limited to: access management, corridor simulation (software), intersection evaluation, operations evaluation, transit/bicycle/pedestrian connections and parking availability/accessibility/issues.

- 419 – Roanoke County, City of Roanoke and City of Salem Assistance – Phase III Review and Follow-up
- Hollins and Peter’s Creek Corridor Study Assistance – Transportation Elements
- City of Roanoke Downtown Parking Study – Area Study
- Town of Vinton Downtown Parking Analysis – Area Study
- Synchro and/or HCS corridor analysis as requested

Localities Served: Cities of Roanoke and Salem, County of Roanoke

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 900 hrs., Local Governments – 100 hrs.

RVAMPO Bicycle Plan and Greenway Master Plan Implementation Planning and Assistance

Staff will present the recently developed (FY2011) Regional Bicycle Plan to local government and stakeholders for approval, staff the Regional Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Board, track yearly progress towards the implementation of the Regional Greenway, provide mapping, web design and grant application assistance to local governments and Greenway Commission, assist governments with Pathways to Healthy Neighborhoods and other active transportation planning initiatives, assist with Glade Creek Greenway Project and review regional and local bicycle, greenway and/or pedestrian plan and review for any gaps that need to be addressed.

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 – 1,278 hrs., Local Government – 140 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.

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 (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 – 677 hrs., FTA – 270 hrs., Local Governments Local Governments – 105 hrs.

Public Transportation Planning Assistance

Staff will develop a new Ride Guide, assist Valley Metro with bus stop accessibility study, assist with Transit Development Plans review analysis or updates as needed, assist with plan adoption of the Human Services – Public Transit Coordinated Transportation Plan, provide transit route mapping assistance, bus stop mapping and maintain and update data related to Google Transit. Staff will also complete a Craig County – Roanoke Transit Feasibility Study and participate in the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Statewide Multi-Modal and Public Space Design Guidelines committee.

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 – 720 hrs., Local Governments – 80 hrs.

Freight Transportation Planning – Phase II

Staff will work with the University of Alabama at Huntsville to apply a freight planning methodology that they developed and tested with the MPO in Mobile, Alabama. Staff will conduct several hundred freight stakeholder interviews using the researcher's methodology. The researchers will then take the results and help RVAMPO construct a data profile for freight planning purposes. This task requires a significant amount of fieldwork in the form of out-of-the office interviews.

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

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: PL – 495 hrs., Local Governments – 55 hrs.

RURAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS



Rural Long Range Transportation Plan-Prioritization and Strategies

Staff will prioritize recommendations from the RLRP into two categories: 1) by jurisdiction and 2) by region. These lists will be provided to VDOT staff (District Planning and Investment Manager) to be used for consideration in developing the draft Six-Year Improvement Program. Identify possible strategies, funding, development opportunities, etc. for implementing the top three recommendations in each of the two categories by jurisdiction and by region.

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

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 40 hrs., Local Governments – 10 hrs.

Corridors of Statewide Significance

Staff will coordinate, as appropriate, with the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment to identify specific locations within the Corridors of Statewide Significance (CoSS) in the region as identified in VTrans 2035 that would be a candidate for further study. This list will be used to assist the CTB and VDOT in determining which locations within the CoSS to study in the future.

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 – 20 hrs., Local Governments – 5 hrs.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Compilation

Staff will compile a list of local and regional bicycle and pedestrian recommendations and include the source of each of the recommendations. These will be used in the development or enhancement of local bike plans. The identified projects will be used by VDOT to strengthen the bicycle and pedestrian element of the next Surface Transportation Plan, allow VDOT to map the planned recommendations and provide an inventory of which jurisdictions have bicycle / pedestrian plans.

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 – 40 hrs., Local Governments – 10 hrs.

Regional Field Trip and Inventory

Staff will coordinate and host in each member jurisdiction a day to ride and inventory major roads. The purpose is to discuss problems and potential solutions. These field trips will help build working relationships and provide an opportunity to gain local / state perspective on transportation challenges.

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

Project Leader: Cristina Finch

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 20 hrs., Local Governments – 5 hrs.

Comprehensive Plan Updates

Staff will assist with updates of Comprehensive Plans. The Rural Transportation Planning Assistance Program will be used to fund work on the transportation element of the plan, which will minimally contain information as required in the Code of Virginia.

Localities Served: Counties of Alleghany, Craig and Town of Clifton Forge

Project Leader: Cristina Finch

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 200 hrs., Local Governments – 50 hrs.

Transit Feasibility Study - Craig County

Staff will provide assistance to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation and its consultant in completing a Transit Feasibility Study for Craig County. The Regional Commission will be the lead contact for the study, provide local data and mapping, and coordinate all meetings and hearings.

Localities Served: County of Craig

Project Leader: Eddie Wells

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 72 hrs., Local Governments – 18 hrs. VDRPT-
\$45,000

Connectivity and Parking Study – Appalachian Trail & Carvins Cove

Staff will assess the issues of greenway connectivity, parking access, and trail usage for the Appalachian Trail and Carvins Cove in Botetourt and Craig County. Studies will evaluate the connectivity of recreational trails with planned extensions of regional greenways. It will also include evaluation of parking adequacy and accessibility at various access points to the trails and greenway system. Counts on roadways, trails, and parking lots may be collected to support the study.

Localities Served: Counties of Botetourt and Craig

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 100 hrs., Local Governments – 25 hrs.

Freight Transportation Planning

Staff will partner with the University of Alabama to analyze the freight characteristic of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region. University researchers will supply training, data and its methodology, while RVARC staff will provide staff time to conduct remaining freight stakeholder interviews using the methodology. The researchers will then take the results and help RVARC construct a data profile for freight planning purposes. This task requires a significant amount of fieldwork in the form of out-of-the office interviews and will also be funded in the Urban Planning Work Program. Staff will also coordinate, in conjunction with VDOT, a local review of data and information related to Virginia's freight initiatives, including identifying the location and classification of freight activity zones and responding to freight surveys prepared by VDOT.

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

Project Leader: Scott Burton

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 48 hrs., Local Governments – 12 hrs.

Craig County Greenway Planning

The Regional Commission will assist Craig County in the planning for a greenway proposed to connect downtown New Castle with an existing greenway in the County.

Localities Served: County of Craig

Project Leader: Shane Sawyer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 120 hrs., Local Governments – 30 hrs.

Route 40 West Corridor Study (Franklin County)

Staff will assist Franklin County to develop a Route 40 West Corridor Plan that defines the traffic shed, determines historic traffic and land development patterns, traffic volumes thresholds that begin to degrade highway level of service, and determine potential recommendations to alleviate future traffic issues.

Localities Served: County of Franklin

Project Leader: Cristina Finch

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 136 hrs., Local Governments – 34 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.

- **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 and member governments 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, 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, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin and Roanoke, and Town of Clifton Forge and Rocky Mount

Project Leader: Jake Gilmer

Funding Source & Estimated Hours: SPR – 105 hrs., Local Governments – 26 hrs.