



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL commission

Regional Commission 2026 Legislative Priorities

1: Roanoke-Blacksburg Airport

- Support current budget amendments for \$7 million feasibility study for runway expansion and \$40 million for terminal improvements at Roanoke-Blacksburg Airport.
- Support increased funding to the Commonwealth Aviation Fund to ensure that all Virginia Commercial Service Airports can make improvements needed to remain competitive with other airports in neighboring states.

2: Transportation

- Increase secondary road funding to an 'amount not to exceed \$50M' and modify the existing funding formula to meet rural needs without competing with or drawing from the existing SMART SCALE program.
- Support investments along the Route 220 corridor between Roanoke and North Carolina.

3: Economic Development

- Continue regional economic development investments focused on increasing infrastructure & industrial site inventory.
- Invest in the Roanoke region's bio-medical and life sciences research sector, including state support for the expansion of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine facility and Fralin Biomedical Research Institute.

4: Data Centers and Energy Infrastructure

- Preserve local zoning authority and decision-making over energy generation and data center approval and siting decisions.
- Reduce Virginia's status as a net importer of energy by modernizing transmission infrastructure, reducing regulatory barriers, and developing incentives for all-of-the-above energy solutions including battery storage, geothermal, hydrogen, biofuels, nuclear, solar, and wind.

For more information visit rvarc.org/policy/regional-legislation