

**GOVA REGION 3  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING PACKET**

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**September 17, 2025**



## Executive Committee

**Date and Time:** September 17, 2025  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** SOVA Innovation Hub  
715 Wilbourn Ave  
South Boston, VA

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/4zyj5a4c>

Dial-In: 929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 339 011 5898

Password: 202011

### Purpose Statement

***"Create more high-paying jobs through incentivized collaboration, primarily through out-of-state revenue, which diversifies and strengthens regional economies."***

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Chair's Opening Comments ..... Lauren Willis
- II. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum.....Ann Wright
- III. Public Comments.....Lauren Willis
- IV. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest..... Lauren Willis
- V. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Notes..... Lauren Willis
- VI. Financial Report and Approved Projects Update.....Andy Wells
- VII. GO Virginia Region 3 Project Funding Matrix Report .....Andy Wells

### Old Business

- VIII. Project Pipeline.....Bryan David

### New Business

- IX. GO Virginia Region 3 2025 Growth & Diversification Plan Update.....Bryan David

### Program Director's Report.....Bryan David

- X. GO Virginia State Board Retreat and Meeting

### Adjourn

MINUTES

**GO VIRGINIA REGION 3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, June 18, 2025**

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

Call To Order

Chair Willis called the GO Virginia (GOVA) Region 3 Executive Committee all-virtual meeting to order on Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

Chair Willis declared a quorum was present.

Region 3 Executive Committee Members

Members	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Clark Casteel		X	
Timothy J. Clark		X	
E. Randolph Lail		X	
Rhonda Hodges		X	
Lauren Willis		X	

Ex Officio Member

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Charley Majors – Region 3 Executive Committee - Advisor		X	

Region 3 Staff

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Bryan David (UVA Weldon Cooper Center) - Program Director – Region 3 Contract Staff		X	
Deborah Gosney - Southside PDC - Support Org. & Fiscal Agent		X	
Ann Wright (CTW Consulting) – Southside PDC Contract Staff		X	
Liz Povar (The Riverlink Group) - Southside PDC Contract Staff		X	
Andy Wells - Southside PDC - Support Org. & Fiscal Agent		X	

### Guests in Attendance

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual
Billy Gammel - DHCD GO Virginia - Senior Program Administrator		X
Rob Eddy – Horticulturist - Resource Innovation Institute (RII)		X
Derek Smith – Executive Director- Resource Innovation Institute (RII)		X

### Public Comments

No written or verbal public comments were received.

### Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest potentially exist for activities benefiting and/or contracts issued to the following organizations and projects listed below:

Name	Organization(s)
Randolph Lail	Mid-Atlantic Broadband; SOVA Innovation Hub
Rhonda Hodges	Patrick Henry Community College
Clark Casteel	Danville Regional Foundation
Lauren Willis	Charlotte County Public Schools
Charley Majors	The Institute for Advanced Knowledge & Research

### Approval of Minutes

Chair Willis noted that the minutes of the March 19, 2025 Executive Committee meeting were received via email prior to the meeting and included in the meeting packet. **Tim Clark made a motion that the minutes from the March 19, 2025 Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Randy Lail and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

### Financial Reports & Project Update

Bryan David and Deborah Gosney presented the Financial Reports and Project Updates that were included in the meeting packet for the period ending May 31, 2025. **Randy Lail made a motion that the Financial Reports be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Tim Clark and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

### **SPECIAL APPEARANCES & PRESENTATIONS**

Derek Smith and Rob Eddy presented the findings of the Co-location of Data Centers and CEA Greenhouses Feasibility Report.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Project Pipeline

Bryan David reviewed the current project pipeline which was emailed to Council members prior to the meeting. The following projects were discussed:

- Health Science Careers Implementation Project: IALR is considering facilitating the implementation of a health care workforce development program based upon the findings of the recent Health Science Careers TPI Planning project.
- Industrial Skilled Trades Training Program: This IALR project would create an industrial skills workforce development training program in partnership with Patrick & Henry, Danville, and Southside Virginia Community Colleges.
- CEA Innovation Center Research Building Expansion: This project would involve installing a prefabricated research greenhouse, making associated building improvements, and preparing the site and utilities to accommodate the needed expansion of facilities and services the Center can provide.
- Region 3 Leadership Development Project: This project would be in partnership with the UVA Sorenson Institute for Leadership and the Virginia Institute for Government to develop a community leadership program in Region 3.

Chair Willis asked members for questions or comments; there being none, there was no discussion regarding the updates.

## NEW BUSINESS

### PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bryan David presented the Program Director's Report as detailed in the meeting packet. The topics discussed were the Pending Projects report, the GOVA Regional Council Committee report, and Region 3 staff transition planning.

The Executive Committee entered into closed session for further discussion of the staff transition planning. **Randy Lail made the motion that pursuant to Section §2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, the GO Virginia Region 3 Council convene in closed session to discuss Region 3 staffing transitions; the motion was seconded by Clark Casteel and approved by roll call vote.**

Upon return to open session, **Randy Lail made the motion that having convened and concluded a closed meeting pursuant to Section §2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and per Section §2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia to certify that the executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; and that the GO Virginia Region 3 Council hereby certified that to the best of each member's knowledge;**

**1) Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the executive meeting to which certification resolution applies, and;**

**2) Only such business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Council; the motion was seconded by Tim Clark and approved by roll call vote. No formal action was taken upon return to open session.**

## ADJOURN

There being no additional business matters to be brought before the GOVA Region 3 Council, Chair Willis adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

These minutes were approved on \_\_\_\_.

Deborah Gosney, Southside PDC  
Executive Director

Lauren Willis, GOVA Region 3  
Council Chair

DRAFT

# FINANCIAL REPORT & PROJECT UPDATE



# GO VIRGINIA REGION 3 FY25 OPERATING BUDGET

## GO Virginia Remittance Activity

FY25 Budget Year: May 1, 2025-April 30, 2026

Report Date: August 2025

GO VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY**  
IN EACH REGION

## FY25 Approved Budget Allocation

Budget Categories	Operating Budget	Remit # 4	Previous Remittances	Total to Date Remittances	Balance Remaining
<b>PROGRAM OPERATIONS</b>					
Audit	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	1,500.00	-
<b>Meetings &amp; Facilitation</b>					
Special Events	-	-	-	-	-
Meetings & Trainings	6,750.00	-	510.46	510.46	6,239.54
Total Meetings & Facilitation	<b>6,750.00</b>	-	<b>510.46</b>	<b>510.46</b>	<b>6,239.54</b>
Supplies	150.00	-	35.28	35.28	114.72
Salaries - SPDC	84,000.00	7,914.40	29,198.46	37,112.86	46,887.14
Contract Services					
SPDC UVA MOU	113,902.00		36,758.15	36,758.15	77,143.85
SPDC Contract Staff - Riverlink	9,000.00	-	2,250.00	2,250.00	6,750.00
Total Contract Services	<b>122,902.00</b>	-	<b>39,008.15</b>	<b>39,008.15</b>	<b>83,893.85</b>
Outreach/Marketing - Letterpress	32,880.00	2,625.00	10,500.00	13,125.00	19,755.00
<b>Total Program Operations</b>	<b>248,182.00</b>	<b>12,039.40</b>	<b>79,252.35</b>	<b>91,291.75</b>	<b>156,890.25</b>
<b>PLANNING</b>					
G& D plan Update	1,250.00		-	-	1,250.00
Technical Assistance	568.00		-	-	568.00
<b>Total Planning</b>	<b>1,818.00</b>	-	-	-	<b>1,818.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>250,000.00</b>	<b>12,039.40</b>	<b>79,252.35</b>	<b>91,291.75</b>	<b>158,708.25</b>

The Checking Account is comprised of	49,229.79	Local Funds (Martinsville-Henry Co EDC Match)
	518.82	Interest cumulative through July 2025
	<b>49,748.61</b>	<b>Total Local Funds</b>
	(12,039.40)	Payments
	<b>37,709.21</b>	<b>Checkbook Register Balance</b>
<b>Payments included in Remittance # 4</b>		
SPDC FY 24 Audit	1,500.00	
Letterpress July PR	2,625.00	
SPDC July Salaries	7,914.40	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,039.40</b>	

## SEED INNOVATION HUB

Grant Agreement Term: January 2, 2023 - January 1, 2026

Report Period: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: Longwood University Real Estate Foundation

GO VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH &  
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IN EACH REGION

### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #4 6/1/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 5,676.23	\$ 472.14	\$ 6,148.37	\$ 5,851.63
Equipment	\$ 611,438.00	\$ 269,339.32	\$ 193,364.73	\$ 462,704.05	\$ 148,733.95
Contingencies	\$ 50,866.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,866.00
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 674,304.00</b>	<b>\$ 275,015.55</b>	<b>\$ 193,836.87</b>	<b>\$ 468,852.42</b>	<b>\$ 205,451.58</b>

### REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Construction	\$ 2,218,222.00	\$ 2,282,475.29	\$ -	\$ 2,282,475.29	\$ (64,253.29)
A&E	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 115,794.01	\$ 10,271.19	\$ 126,065.20	\$ 23,934.80
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,368,222.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,398,269.30</b>	<b>\$ 10,271.19</b>	<b>\$ 2,408,540.49</b>	<b>\$ (40,318.49)</b>
					*Overmatched

Status: GOVA funds are 70% expended. The facility remains in soft opening mode. Currently, they are engaging as many students and community members as possible, and launching the community membership plans in manageable blocks through the summer. The electrical upgrade needed to operationalize the heavy makerspace has been completed. The dust collection systems are the last remaining piece of equipment installations to make full use of the heavy duty makerspace. To date, 118 prototypes have been built, 740 people have used the facility, and 69 tours/events have been held. A grand opening, with community access, will be held in the Fall.

## MBC MIDDLE MILE CONSTRUCTION

Grant Agreement Term: September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2026

Report Period: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: Mid-Atlantic Broadband

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VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
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### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #6 8/7/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Administration	\$ 26,713.00	\$ 5,069.97	\$ 1,140.62	\$ 6,210.59	\$ 20,502.41
MBC Project Administration	\$ 48,083.00			\$ -	\$ 48,083.00
Legal Expenses	\$ 10,685.00	\$ 171.21		\$ 171.21	\$ 10,513.79
A&E Fees	\$ 397,144.00	\$ 121,658.61	\$ 7,700.79	\$ 129,359.40	\$ 267,784.60
Contract Services	\$ 4,517,375.00	\$ 457,340.22	\$ 141,194.47	\$ 598,534.69	\$ 3,918,840.31
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 584,240.01</b>	<b>\$ 150,035.88</b>	<b>\$ 734,275.89</b>	<b>\$ 4,265,724.11</b>

### REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
SPDC Project Administration	\$ 26,713.00	\$ 19,810.00	\$ 3,740.23	\$ 23,550.23	\$ 3,162.77
MBC Project Administration	\$ 48,083.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48,083.00
Legal Expenses	\$ 10,685.00	\$ 10,561.40		\$ 10,561.40	\$ 123.60
A&E Fees	\$ 397,144.00	\$ 264,680.13	\$ 25,251.74	\$ 289,931.87	\$ 107,212.13
Contract Services	\$ 4,517,375.00	\$ 457,340.22	\$ 440,086.16	\$ 897,426.38	\$ 3,619,948.62
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 752,391.75</b>	<b>\$ 469,078.13</b>	<b>\$ 1,221,469.88</b>	<b>\$ 3,778,530.12</b>

Status: GOVA funds are 14% expended. A project extension request is in process. The Emporia to NC State Line project has been completed and commissioning is nearing completion. Fiber has been spliced and is currently carrying carrier traffic for an MBC customer between Raleigh and Richmond on the MBC route. There are several other carriers and ISP's working with MBC on accessing the route. MBC will begin construction on the remaining NTIA middle mile routes this summer, and anticipates having all 130+ miles of new middle mile fiber completed by summer of 2027, if not earlier.

## GO TEC 2025

Grant Agreement Period: December 13, 2022 - December 31, 2025

Report Period: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: Institute for Advanced Learning & Research

GO VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
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### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories (FROM CAMS)	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #9 8/20/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 17,288.00	\$ 12,902.07	\$ 1,636.38	\$ 14,538.45	\$ 2,749.55
Contract Services	\$ 332,243.69	\$ 117,586.29	\$ -	\$ 117,586.29	\$ 214,657.40
Equipment (Freight, Inflationary)	\$ 292,146.96	\$ 292,146.96	\$ -	\$ 292,146.96	\$ -
Indirect Costs	\$ 256,114.00	\$ 137,241.07	\$ 13,251.70	\$ 150,492.77	\$ 105,621.23
Marketing (Outreach)	\$ 94,000.00	\$ 7,285.84	\$ 642.00	\$ 7,927.84	\$ 86,072.16
Salaries & Fringe	\$ 1,961,228.00	\$ 944,783.43	\$ 148,466.28	\$ 1,093,249.71	\$ 867,978.29
Supplies	\$ 151,602.79	\$ 118,151.52	\$ 1,601.59	\$ 119,753.11	\$ 31,849.68
Training	\$ 336,697.56	\$ 223,476.94	\$ 9,578.65	\$ 233,055.59	\$ 103,641.97
Travel	\$ 33,500.00	\$ 12,101.87	\$ 5,357.86	\$ 17,459.73	\$ 16,040.27
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,474,821.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,865,675.99</b>	<b>\$ 180,534.46</b>	<b>\$ 2,046,210.45</b>	<b>\$ 1,428,610.55</b>

### MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories (FROM CAMS)	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match to Date	Match Balance
Contract Services	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 637.20	\$ -	\$ 637.20	\$ 29,362.80
Equipment (Freight, Inflationary)	\$ 505,191.00	\$ 504,959.30	\$ -	\$ 504,959.30	\$ 231.70
Marketing (Outreach)	\$ 127,848.00	\$ 162,325.61	\$ -	\$ 162,325.61	\$ (34,477.61)
Rent/Lease	\$ 400,500.00	\$ 101,490.00	\$ 150,006.56	\$ 251,496.56	\$ 149,003.44
Salaries & Fringe	\$ 1,232,540.00	\$ 782,963.93	\$ 923,604.76	\$ 1,706,568.69	\$ (474,028.69)
Supplies	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 87.47	\$ -	\$ 87.47	\$ 119,912.53
Travel	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,306.66	\$ -	\$ 9,306.66	\$ 693.34
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,426,079.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,561,770.17</b>	<b>\$ 1,073,611.32</b>	<b>\$ 2,635,381.49</b>	<b>\$ (209,302.49)</b>

Status: GOVA funds are 59% expended. Over 6,000 middle school students participated in GO TEC during the 2023-2024 school year. The project is proceeding on schedule. Region's 1, 2, and 4 are planning to add additional labs. To date, this project has supported the creation/filling of 2,174 jobs.

## VIRGINIA'S GROWTH ALLIANCE (VGA) SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Grant Agreement Term: September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2025

Report Period: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: Virginia's Growth Alliance

GO VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
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### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #4 7/18/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 10,825.00	\$ 6,740.34	\$ 2,990.22	\$ 9,730.56	\$ 1,094.44
A&E	\$ 324,225.00	\$ 265,167.00	\$ 47,703.00	\$ 312,870.00	\$ 11,355.00
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 335,050.00</b>	<b>\$ 271,907.34</b>	<b>\$ 50,693.22</b>	<b>\$ 322,600.56</b>	<b>\$ 12,449.44</b>

### REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Site Work	\$ 42,500.00	\$ 42,500.00	\$ -	\$ 42,500.00	\$ -
A&E	\$ 125,500.00	\$ 103,125.00	\$ 19,045.00	\$ 122,170.00	\$ 3,330.00
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 168,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 145,625.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,045.00</b>	<b>\$ 164,670.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,330.00</b>

Status: GOVA funds are 96% expended. All invoices have been received and were submitted in DD#4. Up tiering certification is in progress at most sites. The Brunswick site will not be able to up tier due to an issue with the railroad easement; DHCD is aware.

## RISE Build-to-Scale

Grant Agreement Term: January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2026

Report Date: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: SoVa Innovation Hub

GO VIRGINIA



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### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #6 8/5/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Administration	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 10,075.24	\$ 1,259.04	\$ 11,334.28	\$ 28,665.72
Fiscal Management: MBC	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Marketing: MBC	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 13,701.78	\$ 1,966.08	\$ 15,667.86	\$ 14,332.14
Contract Services	\$ 510,000.00	\$ 170,468.32	\$ 48,146.55	\$ 218,614.87	\$ 291,385.13
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 600,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 209,245.34</b>	<b>\$ 53,871.67</b>	<b>\$ 263,117.01</b>	<b>\$ 336,882.99</b>

### REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Marketing: MBC	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 42,039.97	\$ 137.62	\$ 42,177.59	\$ 7,822.41
Administration: MBC	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 42,686.64	\$ 9,612.00	\$ 52,298.64	\$ 72,701.36
Training	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 165,000.00		\$ 165,000.00	\$ (40,000.00)
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 300,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 249,726.61</b>	<b>\$ 9,749.62</b>	<b>\$ 259,476.23</b>	<b>\$ 40,523.77</b>

Status: GOVA funds are 44% expended. Monthly virtual meetings and in-person Navigator outreach is ongoing. The Fall Regional Innovation Summit for Entrepreneurs will be held on November 1st. To date, a total of 388 entrepreneurs and 287 businesses have been served. Thirteen new businesses have been created and 17 jobs created/filled. Continuing project management in partnership with Community Investment Collaborative (CIC).

## GO TEC REGION 3 EXPANSION

Grant Agreement Term: June 4, 2024 - June 3, 2026

Report Date: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: Institute for Advanced Learning & Research

GO VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
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## GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #2 6/23/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 5,690.00	\$ 314.76	\$ 891.82	\$ 1,206.58	\$ 4,483.42
Training	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 219,710.26	\$ 25,044.99	\$ 244,755.25	\$ 30,244.75
Indirect	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 17,576.82	\$ 2,003.60	\$ 19,580.42	\$ 2,419.58
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 302,690.00</b>	<b>\$ 237,601.84</b>	<b>\$ 27,940.41</b>	<b>\$ 265,542.25</b>	<b>\$ 37,147.75</b>

## REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Salaries	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 32,477.75	\$ 21,651.83	\$ 54,129.58	\$ 55,870.42
Training	\$ 156,000.00	\$ 208,892.74	\$ -	\$ 208,892.74	\$ (52,892.74)
Rent/Lease	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 18,750.00	\$ -	\$ 18,750.00	\$ 18,750.00
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 303,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 260,120.49</b>	<b>\$ 21,651.83</b>	<b>\$ 281,772.32</b>	<b>\$ 21,727.68</b>

Status: GOVA funds are 88% expended. Equipment procurement and install is complete. To date, 410 students and 2 teachers have been trained.

## AMELIA COUNTY DUE DILIGENCE

Grant Agreement Term: October 23, 2024 - October 24, 2025

Report Date: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: Amelia County EDA

GO VIRGINIA



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## GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #1	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
Contract Services	\$ 97,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 97,000.00
Awarded Total	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00

## REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Acquisition	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00
Match Total	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00

Status: No remittance activity to date; only one remittance will be submitted at the conclusion of this project. All due diligence work has been completed. The Master Plan of Development and PER are in process.



## ADVANCED MANUFACTURING TPI

Grant Agreement Term: December 10, 2024 - December 9, 2025

Report Date: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: IALR

GO VIRGINIA



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### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #2 8/13/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 3,400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,400.00
Contract Services	\$ 81,000.00	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 48,000.00
Training	\$ 12,091.00	\$ -	\$ 2,835.43	\$ 2,835.43	\$ 9,255.57
Travel	\$ 10,507.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,507.50
Indirect Costs	\$ 8,396.00	\$ -	\$ 1,640.00	\$ 1,640.00	\$ 6,756.00
Other	\$ 1,350.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,350.00
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 116,744.50</b>	<b>\$ 16,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,975.43</b>	<b>\$ 37,475.43</b>	<b>\$ 79,269.07</b>

### REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Contract Services	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 8,250.00	\$ 9,810.00	\$ 18,060.00	\$ 21,940.00
Training	\$ 1,948.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,948.00
Salaries	\$ 16,494.00	\$ -	\$ 878.75	\$ 878.75	\$ 15,615.25
Other	\$ 1,400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,400.00
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 59,842.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,688.75</b>	<b>\$ 18,938.75</b>	<b>\$ 40,903.25</b>

Status: GOVA funds are 32% expended. The Chmura Living Wage Study has been completed. The TPI Plan is 25% complete. The IALR TPI team is working to identify a new project lead to replace Dr. Julie Brown.

## CO-LOCATION OF DATA CENTERS & CEA GREENHOUSES

Grant Agreement Term: December 17, 2024 - December 16, 2025

Report Date: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: IALR

GO VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY**  
IN EACH REGION

### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #1 5/7/2025	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 367.22	\$ 367.22	\$ 1,632.78
Contract Services	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 23,880.77	\$ 23,880.77	\$ 26,119.23
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 52,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 24,247.99</b>	<b>\$ 24,247.99</b>	<b>\$ 27,752.01</b>

### REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Contract Services	\$ 23,500.00	\$ -	\$ 27,014.75	\$ 27,014.75	\$ (3,514.75)
Salaries	\$ 2,520.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,520.00
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 26,020.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 27,014.75</b>	<b>\$ 27,014.75</b>	<b>\$ (994.75)</b>

Status: GOVA funds are 47% expended. The Feasibility Report has been completed and accepted by the Institute for Advanced Engineering and Research. A media release is in process. Final draw is forthcoming.

## A.I. STATEWIDE LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

Grant Agreement Term: February 28, 2025 - February 27, 2026

Report Date: August 2025

Sub-Grantee: Virginia Chamber

GO VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY**  
IN EACH REGION

### GO VIRGINIA GRANT FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	GOVA Budget	Previously Paid	DHCD Request Drawdown #1	Total Paid After Remittance	Grant Balance
SPDC Project Monitoring/Reporting	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Contract Services	\$ 99,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,000.00
<b>Awarded Total</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>

### REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS

Budget Categories from CAMS	Committed Match	Previous Match	Current Match	Total Match To Date	Match Balance
Salaries	\$ 45,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000.00
Outreach	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 50,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 50,000.00</b>

Status: No remittance activity to date. Working to meet minimum match to submit the first remittance. A.I. Research and literature review is complete. Analysis of A.I. workforce demand and inventory of A.I. workforce training offerings will continue into Quarter 3. An A.I. workforce and workplace survey was developed and launched in July.

# PROJECT FUNDING MATRIX

## GO VIRGINIA REGION 3 PROJECT FUNDING MATRIX

Project Name	G & D Plan Investment Strategy	Project Status	Award Date	Fiscal Close Out Report Date	Grant Amount Awarded	Per Capita Grant Amount Expended	State Competitive Amount Expended	Project Match	Funding Pool
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATIONS THROUGH: FY26</b>						<b>8,301,293.09</b>			
GO TEC Phase 1	Talent Evolution	Closed	02/13/18	3/12/2021	648,000	617,172.79		1,966,230.33	Per Capita
SOVA Innovation Hub	Startup Ecosystem	Closed	07/25/18	6/30/2020	80,000	79,919.80		79,919.81	Per Capita-Planning
GO TEC Phase 2A	Talent Evolution	Closed	03/12/19	6/30/2021	1,320,787		1,320,787.00		State Competitive
E&I Strategic Initiative	Startup Ecosystem	Closed	10/09/19	1/13/2021	100,000	77,662.12		90,641.32	Per Capita
Operation Last Mile Drone	Cluster Scale Up	Closed	04/15/20	10/15/2020	75,000		75,000.00		COVID ERR Fund
IALR Common Platform	Talent Evolution	Closed	04/15/20	12/15/2021	90,140	88,914.96		119,369.53	Per Capita-Planning
GO TEC Phase 2B	Talent Evolution	Closed	06/23/20	9/30/2022	3,575,741		3,360,247.21		State Competitive
MBC Middle Mile Planning	Site Development	Closed	08/04/20	12/31/2022	100,000	99,017.68		891,159.12	Per Capita-Planning
Bridge to Recovery	Cluster Scale Up	Closed	06/23/20	9/27/2023	925,000		767,818.64		COVID ERR Fund
E&I Implementation	Startup Ecosystem	Closed	03/16/21	9/29/2023	449,000	448,120.25		418,229.59	Per Capita
SVRA Site Development	Talent Evolution	Closed	09/23/21	12/31/2025	1,534,900	1,494,464.19		767,450.00	Per Capita
ExperienceWorks	Talent Evolution	Closed	09/23/21	3/31/2024	515,628	321,436.64		257,814.00	Per Capita
Controlled Environment Ag (CEA) Planning	Cluster Scale Up	Closed	11/29/21	6/30/2023	77,803	77,315.50		40,230.90	Per Capita-Planning
SEED Innovation Hub	Startup Ecosystem	Active	12/15/21		674,304	674,304.00		2,368,222.00	Per Capita
VGA Refresh Planning	Site Development	Closed	01/19/22	12/31/2023	100,000	100,000.00		51,000.00	Per Capita-Planning
MBC Middle Mile Construction	Site Development	Active	03/10/22		5,000,000		5,000,000.00		State Competitive
Gupton Initiative (\$64,200 from Regions 1,2,4,8)	Talent Evolution	Closed	06/23/22	12/31/2023	99,200	99,177.65		55,000.00	Per Capita-Planning
CRC REDO Planning	Site Development	Closed	08/18/22	1/31/2024	65,000	64,279.45		44,500.00	Per Capita-Planning
GO TEC Virginia 2025	Talent Evolution	Active	12/13/22		3,474,821		3,474,821.00		State Competitive
PHCC GO TEC Welding Instructor	Talent Evolution	Active	03/14/23		118,545	118,026.03		129,261.00	Per Capita
SVCC GO TEC Mechatronics Instructor	Talent Evolution	Active	03/14/23		139,732	139,732.00		223,208.00	Per Capita
VGA Site Development	Site Development	Active	06/13/23		335,050	335,050.00		168,000.00	Per Capita
SOVA RISE Build to Scale	Startup Ecosystem	Active	09/12/23		600,000	600,000.00		300,000.00	Per Capita
SoVA Health Sciences Careers Planning	Talent Evolution	Active	09/12/23		133,000		108,251.12		Talent Pathways
Amelia Co Reg. Commerce Center: Due Dilligence	Site Development	Active	10/08/24		100,000	100,000.00		100,000.00	Per Capita-Planning
Amelia Co Reg. Commerce Center: Site Study	Site Development	Closed	05/06/24	10/16/2024	21,000	20,996.74		10,500.00	Per Capita-Planning
GO TEC Region 3 Expansion	Talent Evolution	Active	06/04/24		302,690	302,690.00		303,500.00	Per Capita
Advanced Manufacturing/CEA Initiative	Talent Evolution	Active	12/10/24		116,745		116,745.00		Talent Pathways
Co-Location of Data Centers & CEA	Site Development	Active	12/10/24		52,000	52,000.00		26,020.00	
Chamber-AI Project (\$50,000 from Region 2)	Talent Evolution	Active	3/5/2025		100,000	100,000.00		50,000.00	Per Capita-Planning
SOVA Fab Lab	Startup Ecosystem	Active	6/10/2025		510,000	510,000.00		260,000.00	Per Capita
SVCC Occupational Training Facility	Talent Evolution	Active	6/10/2025		570,000	570,000.00		285,000.00	Per Capita
Va's Gateway Region Site Development (w/ Region 4)	Site Development	Pending			11,111	11,111.00			Per Capita-Planning
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b>					<b>22,015,197</b>	<b>7,101,390.80</b>	<b>14,223,669.97</b>	<b>9,005,255.60</b>	
<b>FY26 PER CAPITA PROJECT BALANCE</b>						<b>1,199,902.29</b>			
Of the \$1,000,000 that is awarded annually, no more than \$250,000 can be utilized for Planning Projects. Projects highlighted in green are not funded by the Region 3 Per Capita allocation. Date of Award for Planning Grants is the date DHCD staff approved it. DHCD recaptured \$497,944.75 per letter dated October 4, 2024.							ERR-Economic Resilience & Recovery Fund ECB-Enhanced Capacity Building		

**OLD BUSINESS**

# PROJECT PIPELINE



**DATE:** September 10, 2025

**TO:** Region 3 Council

**FROM:** R. Bryan David, Program Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RBD', is placed over the 'FROM:' line.

**RE: Project Pipeline Report**

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Below is information about projects that are in varying stages of development:

I. **SOVA Partnership Health Science Careers**

-the Talent Pathways Initiative planning project has been completed by the project principals with the Blue Ridge Partnership for Health Science Careers (C. Lawrence) and George Mason University (Dr. C. Sutter). Dr. Julie Brown (IALR) has provided in-region leadership and staffing support to the SOVA Partnership. This report was presented to the Region 3 Council at its meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

-since that time, Dr. Brown has left IALR and begun serving as Provost of Averett University. There was momentum for IALR to assume development and submission of the GO Virginia Region 3 implementation grant to stand up the SOVA Partnership, but that option is no longer viable.

-a meeting of the group is scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss possible paths forward to sustain the SOVA Partnership. Information from that meeting will be shared with the Executive Committee at its meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

II. **Industrial Skilled Trades Training Program**

-each of the community colleges in GO VA Region 3 (Patrick & Henry CC, Danville CC, and Southside Virginia CC) established a collaborative partnership in October 2024 to advance training and credentials in skilled trades. This partnership is being supported by a \$1MM grant from Chancellor Dore at the Virginia Community College System.

-a Region 3 Per Capita implementation grant would create a workforce training program for "industrial skilled trades" to meet student demand beyond current offerings at each of the community colleges.

-this program would include credit and non-credit courses to support Region 3's targeted sectors, including advanced manufacturing, information technology/communications (data centers), and healthcare (facilities management). Initially identified trades include electrical, HVAC, carpentry, and plumbing/pipefitting.





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- the attached white paper for the project was prepared by the three (3) community colleges outlining the project. The Region 3 staff liaison at DHCD was consulted, and it was determined that the project would be eligible for a per capita implementation grant.

- the application development is underway and is being led by Patrick & Henry Community College.

- the project will include the acquisition of equipment and funding for instructional personal at each community college, and the current GO Virginia Region 3 grant is estimate at approximately \$1MM.

- the project application will be presented to the Project Review Committee and the Region 3 Council in October for submission to DHCD by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **III. CEA Innovation Center Research Building Expansion**

- Dr. Scott Lowman has shown that the greenhouses currently used for contract research for CEA firms and other academic institutions are at capacity, creating a backlog of work. Contract research is an operating revenue source for the CEA Innovation Center.

- the project would involve installing a prefabricated research greenhouse, making associated building improvements, and preparing the site and utilities.

A grant from the Southern Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) was submitted following approval of a pre-application for the project. Approval is anticipated by the end of September.

- a Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission will be pursued to support the purchase of the greenhouse and fund the associated site development and utilities.

- a GO Virginia Region 3 Per Capita grant would be pursued for the equipment used in research at the greenhouse for a funding request of approximately \$250-\$500k—submission for January 2026 Region 3 Council meeting.

### **IV. Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor (BRIC)**

- the [Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor](#) is an initiative of leaders from business, education, non-profits, and the public sector to establish Virginia's first inter-regional economic zone, specifically designed to capture the convergence of advanced manufacturing and biotechnology in the 21st-century economy.



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-this planning initiative will establish a comprehensive framework for transforming the BRIC corridor into a globally competitive innovation ecosystem spanning GO Virginia Regions 2 & 3. The geographic area of the zone spans over 25 localities, from Danville through Martinsville to Roanoke and Blacksburg. The zone leverages "...existing infrastructure investments, institutional research capabilities, and emerging industry clusters to create critical mass necessary for global competitiveness in convergence technologies."

-coordination between SIR (BRIC consultant) and Region 2 and Region 3 GO Virginia staff is underway to develop a Statewide Competitive Planning Grant to present to the GO Virginia Region 2 and 3 Councils at each's October meeting.

-SIR has developed the attached draft project overview and stakeholder engagement documents.

-the complete application would be submitted to DHCD's GO Virginia staff by the 10.31.25 deadline and considered by the GO VA State Board at its meeting on 12.9.25.

-It should be noted that Statewide Competitive Planning projects are funded with statewide GO Virginia resources, and not regional per capita funds. The GO Virginia State Board approves these types of projects.

V. **Virginia Tech Additive Manufacturing and Advanced Materials (AM2) Tech Hub**

-launched in 2023 with a grant by the US EDA, the AM2 Tech Hub is creating a competitive advantage for advanced manufacturing and advanced materials in Region 2 and Region 3.

-This initiative is managed by Virginia Tech's Center for Economic and Community Engagement and includes businesses in Regions 2 and 3, Virginia Tech, and the Center for Advanced Learning and Research.

-the proposed project would build on the Tech Hub and create:

- Building AM2 Innovation Studios in Blacksburg and Danville
- Embedding AM2 Innovation Fellows
- Learning AM2 Career Network to enhance education and training at all levels
- 

-the budget is to be determined with submission in early 2026

-this would be a statewide competitive grant, and no Region 3 Per Capita funds would be used.



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**VI. Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance**

-after meeting with the Heartland Alliance's Executive Director, Alex McCoy, there could be an opportunity (Phase 1) for a business site planning project to determine the inventory available business investment sites and buildings in the region, each's VEDP tier level, and analysis of the opportunities for up-tiering the regional priority properties.

-Phase II could be an identification and analysis of potential large sites that could be developed by a regional industrial development authority, by members of the Heartland Alliance, which could include exploring the potential to reorganize and repurpose the Heartland Regional Industrial Development Facilities Authority.

-all future applications submitted by the Heartland Alliance are subject to receiving its non-profit organization tax exemption by the IRS and Amelia County becoming a full member.

**VII. Region 3 Leadership Development Project**

-report completed (8.24)

-GO Virginia funding strategy under development

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For the Region 3 Council's information. No action is needed.



### **GO Virginia: Region 3 Request for Industrial Skills Trades Training**

Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC), Danville Community College (DCC) and Southside Virginia Community College (SVCC) are partnering on a Region 3 application for GO Virginia dollars to support expanded Industrial Skills Trades offerings. Across Region 3, the employer demand for workers trained to fill industrial skilled trades positions has grown exponentially in recent years, as has enrollment at each school. To meet this demand, all three schools are working to expand existing training. Please see the current Region 3 Industrial Skills Trades demand below:

**Industrial Skilled Trades Training Employment Demand Per JobsEq Data**

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Number Employed in Region 3</b>	<b>Mean Annual Wages</b>
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	40	\$68,200
Maintenance and Repair Workers	1,206	\$47,800
Plumbers, Pipefitters, Steamfitters	290	\$53,700
Plumbing Technology/Plumbers	970	\$64,900
Carpentry/Carpenter	1,366	\$54,800
Construction Trades/Workers Supervisors	702	\$46,700
Electricians	547	\$54,800
Line Installers and Repairers	202	\$72,900
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	1,075	\$43,300

P&HCC, DCC, and SVCC are working collaboratively to grow a strategic talent pipeline to attract new companies and grow existing businesses in targeted skilled trades industries in GO Virginia Region 3. Virginia Career Works West Piedmont Region will also serve as a project partner to assist with job placement of students. The targeted industries are based on aligned economic development interests and the availability of a highly trained workforce. The proposed project is built on years of collaborative work across the region to create talent pathways and a network of partners committed to driving innovation across the Commonwealth. Led by P&HCC, this proposal includes coordination across Region 3 through training offered by P&HCC, DCC, and SVCC as well as employers, economic developers, and K12 divisions. Currently, the biggest need of all three schools is funding for equipment that will allow for expanded hands' on training for students.

P&HCC is currently renovating existing space on campus to create two new and fully equipped Industrial Skilled Trades labs. Renovation is expected to be completed by Fall 2025 and will result in a dedicated Carpentry lab of 2,251 square feet and a dedicated HVAC/Plumbing lab of 2,318 feet. P&HCC offers multiple Skilled Trades offerings as short-term workforce credentials, which have seen a huge surge in enrollment in recent years. These short-term training programs all use curriculum from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) and students may sit for NCCER credentialing exams at program completion.

- Core-Introductory Craft Skills
- Carpentry Level 1
- HVAC Levels 1-4
- Plumbing Levels 1-4

- Power Industry Fundamentals
- Power Line Worker 1

The college also offers a Residential and Commercial Electrician Career Studies Certificate. P&HCC began offering the Greenlee certification training in April 2023 and has already issued 515 certifications to 55 students, and surpassed 600 certifications awarded by the end of the Fall 2024 semester.

DCC is working to expand its Industrial Maintenance Training in response to the expected 2,000 new jobs projected to be created by Microporous LLC's \$1.34 billion investment in Pittsylvania County. This initiative will ensure that local talent is prepared to meet the technical, mechanical, and automation needs of companies like Microporous, which rely on a highly skilled workforce to maintain and optimize production operations. Training systems to be acquired include:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • Fundamentals of Sensor Technology   | • Industry 4.0 Certified Associate – Fundamentals                  |
| • Fundamentals of Electricity (AC and DC)   | • Applied Fluid Power  |
| • Fundamentals of Mechanical Systems  | • Applied PLC – Allen-Bradley and Siemens                          |
| • Fundamentals of PLC (Allen-Bradley and Siemens)   | • Applied Mechanical Systems                                       |
| • Fundamentals of Fluid Power – Pneumatics and Hydraulics ( <i>with required workstations</i> ) | • Applied Industrial Motor Controls                                |
| • Fundamentals of Robotics ( <i>existing equipment will be leveraged</i> )                      | • Applied Robotics ( <i>existing equipment will be leveraged</i> ) |
|   | • Industry 4.0 Certified Technician – Applied                      |

This grant will support the purchase and deployment of essential training systems that align directly with the NC3 certification tracks, offering stackable, industry-recognized credentials in both Fundamentals and Applied technical areas.

This grant investment is crucial to prepare a workforce that matches the ambition and technological sophistication of Virginia's newest industrial projects. It ensures Region 3 is able to capitalize on employer investments in the region by delivering training that will equip local talent with high-demand skills. This training will ultimately strengthen the region's competitive advantage in the national manufacturing resurgence.



# BRIC Vision 2050 Project



**Overview Draft: September 8, 2025**

## Background On This Document

The Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor (BRIC) is applying for a GO Virginia grant to launch Vision 2050, a once-in-a-generation master planning effort to realize the Corridor's full potential as Virginia's fourth economic powerhouse. This initiative will deliver a clear playbook for where BRIC is going, how it will get there, and the strategic investments required to unlock long-term growth, innovation, and competitiveness. This document provides the framework for the GO Virginia application. It explains:

- BRIC Overview and where we are headed
- Vision 2050 Overview and Goals
- Vision 2050 Approach
- Vision 2050 Deliverables
- Vision 2050 Budget (including GO Virginia)

## What BRIC Is and Where It Is Headed

### BRIC Overview

BRIC is a business-led, research-backed nonprofit organization established in 2024 and recently approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3). Our core function is to unite business leaders across Southern Virginia from Danville to Martinsville through Roanoke and Blacksburg and the counties in between, to drive inclusive, innovation-driven economic growth at a megaregional scale. We have named this megaregion the Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor or BRIC, giving our organization and the megaregion the same name.

Our purpose, mission, vision, and values succinctly sum up who we are:

#### **Purpose (We Believe)**

We believe that only by working together can BRIC communities unlock our megaregion's boundless economic potential.

#### **Mission (So We)**

We amplify our existing strengths, uncover new opportunities through strategic research and collaboration, and unite leaders to secure transformative investments in innovation and infrastructure.

#### **Vision (In Order To)**

To be Virginia's widely recognized fourth economic engine and the Commonwealth's winning model for driving growth and opportunity for all.

#### **Values (How We Act)**

**Boldness** | We lead with courage and a clear vision.

**Resilience** | We never give up; we rise to meet challenges.

**Innovation** | We pursue creative, future-focused ideas.

**Collaboration** | We work across boundaries to create shared success.



BRIC follows a proven international model where nearby cities no longer compete but instead join forces to scale planning, advocacy, and investment. Across the U.S. and globally, these multijurisdictional collaboratives have become powerful vehicles for addressing cross-jurisdictional challenges and opportunities like infrastructure, talent, and innovation. They may be called “megaregions,” “innovation districts,” or “high-tech corridors” — but what truly matters is what they deliver: a unifying vision and the collective scale to attract investment, accelerate innovation, and drive lasting prosperity.

Notable U.S. examples include [Cascadia](#) and the [Florida High Tech Corridor](#). Virginia has two active megaregions – [RVA757Connects](#) (Richmond area and Hampton Roads region) and the [Greater Washington Partnership](#) (Baltimore, Washington, and Richmond).

## Where BRIC Is Headed:

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The concept of BRIC has been explored and studied by the region’s business leaders over the past two years. This year we became a recognized non-profit, funded by our board members with three-year pledge commitments.

We are committed to building BRIC into a sustainable, independent organization that’s unique from other groups across the region:

- **Megaregion Scale:** BRIC works beyond traditional borders. The organization convenes leaders from Danville to Martinsville through Roanoke and Blacksburg and the counties in between. This cross border, multi- jurisdictional perspective is what makes BRIC truly unique. As stated in our purpose: we believe that only by working together can BRIC communities unlock our megaregion’s boundless economic potential.
- **Voice of Business:** BRIC moves at the speed of business, representing many of the largest and most influential businesses and major anchor institutions (Virginia Tech and the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research).
- **Organizational Independence:** BRIC is independent from state or local agencies, governmental bodies, and elected officials. Through professional managers (and eventually a dedicated full-time staff), research partners, and a growing board of 40+ committed regional business leaders, BRIC can operate independently with credibility and needed resources to organize, analyze, advocate, and deliver results.
- **Research-based Advocacy:** BRIC can actively advocate for greater investment in infrastructure like Rt. 220 and will do so as priorities are approved by the BRIC board.
- **Vision and Action:** Through Vision 2050, BRIC will help the megaregion envision its full economic potential and formulate an action plan to make it happen. This will include convening organizations to help make this happen.

In a nutshell, BRIC is building a strategic platform that unites leaders across its communities to harness the power of scale. Through business leadership, research-based advocacy, and long-range visioning and planning, BRIC will help connect and focus everyone on unlocking the full economic potential of the Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor.

## Vision 2050 Overview and Goals

### Vision 2050 Overview

Vision 2050, BRIC's signature initiative, is a once-in-a-generation strategic planning initiative designed to unlock the full economic potential of the Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor. Grounded in broad community engagement and guided by expert consultants, Vision 2050 will become the master plan and ultimate game changer for the megaregion.

At its core, Vision 2050 will create a shared vision for the megaregion, core strategies needed, and a detailed implementation playbook for BRIC, the organization, and the megaregion to follow.

### Vision 2050 Goals

The goals for Vision 2050 include:

- **Unite the Region:** Build a shared megaregional identity, economic vision, and game plan that brings BRIC's communities and stakeholders together with common purpose.
- **Restore and Advance Economic Power:** Solidify BRIC's position as Virginia's fourth economic engine — restoring its stature while accelerating a future rooted in innovation.
- **Become a National Hub:** Position the megaregion as a recognized national hub for advanced manufacturing, life sciences/biotech, and national security.
- **Invest in Critical Infrastructure:** Define and prioritize investments in transportation, broadband, site readiness, and workforce housing to support population and talent growth.
- **Strengthen Workforce Pipelines:** Identify and advance workforce training and development initiatives to meet the needs of industry hubs.
- **Secure Sustainable Funding:** Establish long-term funding strategies and pathways to support transformative projects and initiatives.
- **Ensure Lasting Impact:** Develop implementation workstreams, partnerships, and accountability mechanisms to make Vision 2050 sustainable and effective.

## Vision 2050 Approach

Vision 2050 is structured as an inclusive, iterative process that will engage partners across the megaregion throughout the entire discovery and plan development process.

### Phase I: Building Planning Teams and Setting the Vision (September–December 2025)

The first phase starts with building two planning teams: Vision 2025 Core Project Steering Committee and a large community-wide Vision 2050 Steering Committee.

- **The Vision 2050 Project Steering Team:** This small BRIC subcommittee with the support of a several outside members will oversee the ongoing implementation of the Vision 2050 project. This team includes:
  - Brandy Salmon, Vice President, Innovation & Partnerships, Virginia Tech
  - Eddie Amos, Retired Senior Vice President of Technology for GE
  - Telly Tucker, President of The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
  - Jay Dickens, President & CEO, The Lester Group
  - Linda Green, Executive Director, Southern Virginia Regional Alliance
  - John Provo, Executive Director, Center for Economic and Community Engagement at Virginia Tech; GO Virginia Region 2
  - Bryan David, Program Director for GO Virginia Region 3; Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia
  - S.I.R. as the overall project manager and stakeholder engagement facilitator.
- **The Vision 2050 Advisory Committee:** The Vision 2025 Advisory Committee will provide input and insights at key stages of the project. This group will include well over 50 people, representatives of planning agencies, economic development agencies, chambers, and business organizations across the megaregion. Periodic meetings are envisioned where this group will review and comment on key inputs and deliverables. A detailed schedule will be crafted and shared with members of this group as they are being recruited. S.I.R. will manage this Committee.

During this first phase, through S.I.R., BRIC will build and launch a Vision 2050 project website and create Vision 2050 communications tools – social media and e-newsletter.

BRIC will also inventory and mine existing research, studies, and plans from across the megaregion, creating a meta-analysis of what we know and don't know about the region. This step will also include understanding the synergies between the GO Virginia Growth and Diversification Plans of both Region 2 and 3.

BRIC is now actively planning stakeholder briefings across the megaregion for the fall 2025 period. This will include community survey.

During this time, the BRIC Vision 2050 Steering Team will select the expert research partner(s) through a formal RFP process. This could include one national strategy partner with expertise in several areas or multiple industry category experts.

Phase I will ultimately identify a well-defined and unifying vision for Vision 2050 and build a strong, data-backed foundation for the expert consultants to learn from and build on starting in Phase II when GO Virginia funds are available.

## Phase II: Technical Strategies & Expert Workstreams (January–June 2026)

Nationally recognized consultant(s) will begin their work in Phase II, leading deep-dive studies in advanced manufacturing, life sciences, national security, infrastructure, and related funding streams.

Subcommittees of the Vision 2050 Advisory Committee may help support the consultant team, ensuring the strategies reflect both global best practices and local realities.

Key findings and insights and preliminary reports from the consultant(s) will be shared at key meetings of the Advisory Committee.

## Phase III: Integration & Blueprint Development (July–Fall 2026)

All strategies will be merged into a unified Vision 2050 Plan – our playbook. This final blueprint will include investment priorities, implementation timelines, and funding pathways. The plan will be unveiled at a regional summit and rolled out through a broad communications campaign.

The plan will also serve as BRIC's priorities and implementation road map. Most likely, this will include establishing key workstreams that will involve multiple organizations. BRIC leaders will also use the Vision 2050 Plan to pursue funding sources.

### What Makes this Approach Different

- **Inclusive from the start:** Leaders and organizations across the megaregion will be directly engaged. Hundreds of people will participate through community-based survey research.
- **Data-driven:** Vision 2050 will build on prior studies and new analysis, ensuring no duplication and full alignment.
- **Global Best Practices:** The Vision 2050 Plan will be based on national and global best practices in building hubs.
- **Implementation-oriented:** The output is not just a plan but a living playbook with governance, implementation, and accountability structures built into a detailed implementation plan ensure sustainability and accountability – results.
- **Funding-oriented:** A key part of the plan is to identify where and how to fund long-term implementation.

## Vision 2050 Deliverables

The Vision 2050 process will produce a Strategic Plan and Implementation Playbook that will include:

- **A Sector Strategy for Advanced Manufacturing:** A strategic game plan focused on scaling BRIC's advanced manufacturing base, with specific emphasis on additive manufacturing, DoD-aligned production, workforce pipelines, and supplier ecosystem development.
- **A Sector Strategy for Biotech and Life Sciences:** A strategic game plan to grow the regional biosciences ecosystem into a national hub, leveraging academic research, translational innovation, talent, and commercialization opportunities.
- **A Sector Strategy for National Security:** A strategic plan to build the BRIC region into a hub for defense and security innovation, leveraging Virginia Tech's role as a top Department of Defense research partner. The strategy will focus on scaling cybersecurity talent pipelines through the DoD Senior Military College Cyber Institute (SMC<sup>2</sup>I), accelerating procurement and acquisition modernization via the Acquisition Innovation and Research Center (AIRC), and expanding interdisciplinary research and industry partnerships through the National Security Institute. The goal is to deepen BRIC's integration into the national security ecosystem, ensuring sustained federal investment, building resilient dual-use technologies, and positioning the region as a go-to destination for defense-driven innovation.

For all three hub-building plans, it is anticipated that the consultant(s) will identify the most promising sub-industries or niche categories like additive for advanced manufacturing.

- **A Non-Engineering Infrastructure Investment Strategy:** A strategic plan to develop the critical infrastructure needed to enable and support the economic growth of the three industries listed above, including transportation (road, rail, air), broadband/digital infrastructure, industrial site readiness, workforce development, and workforce/mixed-income housing.
- **Local, State, and Federal Funding Roadmap:** A set of funding pathways and partnership opportunities to support the overall plan's implementation, drawing on programs from EDA, DoD, NSF, NIH, state economic development incentives, local resources, and other relevant sources.
- **A Connectivity Strategy:** The final plan must identify, unify, and amplify the unique contributions of BRIC's most powerful institutional and geographic assets:
  - Virginia Tech's world-class research and commercialization infrastructure
  - IALR's advanced workforce training programs and applied industry partnerships
  - Roanoke's expanding biotech/life sciences ecosystem
  - Danville and Martinsville's national leadership in advanced manufacturing and technical talent development

Together, these deliverables will ensure that Vision 2050 is not only visionary but executable, providing BRIC with the strategic clarity, investment focus, and organizational momentum needed to drive long-term, inclusive economic transformation across the megaregion.

## Vision 2050 Budget (including GO Virginia)

The following outlines the anticipated funding for the BRIC Vision 2050 Project.

We anticipate that the BRIC Board will primarily support Phase I. Third-party grants from foundations will augment Phase I resources.

Foundation grants plus GO Virginia funding will support Phases II and III. It should be noted that GO Virginia funding will not be available until January 2026.

We also recognize that GO Virginia requires a government match. We will ask GO Virginia if this requirement can be “in-kind” or replaced by the foundations.

1. BRIC Board and Local Foundations (2025 and 2026 resources)	\$500,000
2. GO Virginia (2026)	\$1,000,000
<b>Total Source of Funding:</b>	
	<b>\$1,500,000</b>

While a national consulting team(s) has not been hired and an RFP process will be followed, S.I.R.'s conversations with several candidate firms has confirmed that this budget will enable the work to be performed as discussed in this document. All firms agreed the suggested budget is adequate, especially with the kind of BRIC support detailed in Phase I. Final firm(s) selection is part of Phase I.

## Alignment with GO Virginia priorities

We believe Vision 2050 directly advances GO Virginia priorities by strengthening regional collaboration, developing the workforce, identifying infrastructure gaps, leveraging state and federal funding, and ensuring inclusive prosperity across rural and urban communities. Specifically, Vision 2050 will advance the priority of business cluster scale up by focusing on advanced manufacturing (focusing on additive), biotech/life sciences, and national security.

### GO Virginia Priority categories:

- Traditional Economic Development (sites and buildings, roads, water/wastewater utilities, energy generation and distribution, telecommunications, stormwater management, etc.)
- Workforce Development (K12-16+)
- Technology-Based Economic Development
- Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development
- **Business Cluster Scale-Up**

## Conclusion

Vision 2050 is more than a regional plan. It is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to define the future of Southern Virginia's innovation economy.

By aligning advanced manufacturing, biotech, and national security leadership with infrastructure, workforce, and investment funding strategies, BRIC will secure its position as Virginia's fourth economic engine and as a national model for rural innovation-led growth.

Through GO Virginia support, this initiative will create a living strategy, rooted in values, powered by data, and designed for execution, that ensures future generations inherit a region that is competitive, inclusive, and resilient.

# Stakeholder Relations

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## Key Engagement to Date:

- Martinsville-Henry Chamber of Commerce
- Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation
- The Harvest Foundation
- Southern Virginia Regional Alliance
- Partnership for Regional Prosperity
- Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce
- Danville Regional Foundation
- Roanoke Regional Partnership
- Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission
- Roanoke Valley Transportation Organization
- Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Roanoke Blacksburg Technology Council/Roanoke Blacksburg Innovation Alliance
- Fralin Biomedical Research Institute
- Franklin County Economic Development







# VIRGINIA'S Additive Manufacturing & Advanced Materials TECH HUB

Launched in 2023, the Additive Manufacturing and Advanced Materials (AM2) Tech Hub is creating an ideal environment for advanced manufacturing growth across Virginia and beyond. With support from the US Economic Development Administration's Tech Hubs Program and the Virginia Initiative for Growth & Opportunity (GOVA), this Southern and Southwest Virginian Hub represents over 100 private and public sector partners who provide agile, efficient, and effective solutions for enhancing US competitiveness.

AM2 serves industry partners in verticals including defense, transportation, energy, biomanufacturing, and industrialized construction. AM2 members are growing programs to support the deployment of innovative technologies and novel materials up and down supply chains; develop practical education and training programs at all levels; and connect the opportunities of industry with intellectual capital and entrepreneurial spirit to find innovative approaches to a more agile manufacturing sector.

The AM2 Hub's roadmap to future success includes several key areas of investment:

## **Building AM2 Innovation Studios in Blacksburg and Danville**

These centers will provide physical locations for collaborations between industry, researchers, and manufacturing extension specialists. Industry professionals, research faculty, students, and business assistance professionals will provide technical assistance, market research, training and curricular development, capital access assistance, and other activities alongside industry. These studios will also create opportunities for hands-on-training, co-ops, internships, and apprenticeships.

## **Embedding AM2 Innovation Fellows**

Virginia Tech represents our largest pool of intellectual capital. AM2 will better leverage those assets through a team of innovation fellows, with industry and university research experience. AM2 Fellows will assist with the AM2 discovery pipeline, connect AM2 partners inside and outside the university, and manage proof of concept funding to de-risk technology for the market. Fellows will learn from and find solutions to challenges identified at the Innovation Studios and industry locations across the Hub.

## **Launching AM2 Career Network, enhancing education and training at all levels**

Industries are already identifying new education and training needs as AM2 technologies become more common and accepted in their fields. Standout and emerging programs with strengths in key industry verticals already exist around the region serving new and incumbent workers. Networking these assets, creating clear on- and off-ramps for training and upskilling, developing new stackable programs, and meeting the needs across industry verticals will happen through this network. The career network will expand on GOTECH™, an innovative homegrown program providing industry-driven STEM experiences in middle schools, feeding high school career and technical and education programs, and aligning with community college and post-secondary certificate and degree programs. Experiential learning at the AM2 Innovation Studios will surface emerging training needs and feed them back to the network. A network coordinator will work with industry, education, and training partners to develop shared curricular guides and identify industry priorities.

For more, visit: <https://am2virginia.org/>



**NEW BUSINESS**



**DATE:** September 11, 2025

**TO:** GO Virginia Region Executive Committee

**FROM:** R. Bryan David, Program Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RBD', is placed over the name 'R. Bryan David'.

**RE: 2025 GO Virginia Region 3 Growth & Diversification Plan Update**

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The 2025 Growth & Diversification Plan update continues, and the Advisory Committee held its most recent meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The committee reviewed a draft of the Growth & Diversification Plan update and provided input on the recommended strategies and related items.

The draft is being updated to reflect this input, which will be sent to Executive Committee members under separate cover on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

We will facilitate a discussion among the Executive Committee members about the proposed strategies at the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Following this meeting, a working draft of the plan will be finalized and sent to DHCD GO Virginia staff for preliminary review. Once that review is complete, we will make revisions as needed and reconvene the Advisory Committee in early October for a final review before presenting the document to the Region 3 Council for approval at its meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For the Region 3 Executive Committee's discussion and guidance.

# PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT



**DATE:** September 12, 2025

**TO:** Region 3 Executive Committee

**FROM:** R. Bryan David, Program Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RBD', is placed over the 'FROM' line.

**RE: GO Virginia State Board Retreat/Meeting (9.9.25)**

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The GO Virginia State Board held its annual retreat and a quarterly meeting at J. Sargent Reynolds Community College in Richmond.

Attached is a copy of the meeting agenda for your reference.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For the Executive Committee's information. No action is needed.



## GO Virginia State Board Retreat

### Dates/Times:

September 9th, 2025, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

### Location:

Reynolds College  
Workforce Development Center  
1651 E Parham Rd,  
Richmond, VA 23228

The objective of this retreat is to engage in a strategic discussion on aligning the Commonwealth's economic development priorities and expectations for GO Virginia.

### Tuesday, September 9th

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>8:00 am – 9:00 am</b>  | <b>Check-In – Breakfast Served</b>  |
| <b>9:00 am - 9:05 pm</b>  | <b>Welcome</b><br><br><i>Dr. Paula P. Pando, President, Reynolds College</i>  |
| <b>9:05 pm - 9:20 pm</b>  | <b>Opening Remarks</b><br><br><i>Nancy Howell Agee, Chair, GO Virginia State Board</i>  |
| <b>9:20 am - 10:00 am</b> | <b>Virginia's Economic Landscape</b><br><br>This session sets the tone for the day's conversations by grounding attendees in the facts, trends, and forecasts that shape Virginia's economy. The presentation will touch on emerging opportunities and risks, offering strategic insights that can inform GO Virginia's statewide investment and priorities.  |
| <b>10:00 am- 10:10 am</b> | <b>Networking Break</b>   |
| <b>10:10 am – 11:00</b>   | <b>Panel: Exploring Virginia's Economic Competitiveness</b><br><br>This discussion will examine Virginia's economic position through the lens of industry—exploring the factors that drive business growth, attract investment, and sustain a strong workforce. Panelists will share insights on the state's competitive advantages, including high-performing industry clusters and ecosystem assets, while also addressing barriers that could limit long-term success. |
| <b>11:00 – 11:10 am</b>   | <b>Networking Berak</b>   |



**11:10 am – 12:00 pm Panel: Increasing GO Virginia’s Collective Impact**

This session will explore how GO Virginia functions as a catalyst for statewide economic transformation by leveraging the strengths of its regional partners. Panelists will highlight regional collaboration, scalable initiatives, and innovative approaches to aligning local priorities with the broader goals of the Commonwealth.

**12:00 pm – 12:30 pm Lunch**

**12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Facilitated Conversation: GO Virginia Investment Strategies**

In this facilitated discussion, board members will break into small groups to reflect on whether GO Virginia’s current investment strategies remain responsive to regional needs, competitive realities, and the Commonwealth’s long-term economic goals. Groups will reconvene to share takeaways and proposed action steps with the whole board. This session is designed to spark candid conversation and lay the groundwork for potential refinements to the program’s strategic direction in the months ahead.

**Close of Meeting**

**The quarterly business meeting of the GO Virginia State Board will immediately follow the retreat.**