AGENDA: Regular Quarterly Meeting

October 15, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. 200 South Mecklenburg Avenue

South Hill, VA

# **Zoom Connection Info**

https://zoom.us/j/3390115898?pwd=Wnl1azNuMjNkQURib0hFK2hDamFrUT09

Meeting ID: 339 011 5898

Password: 920932

# Phone Only

1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 339 011 5898

**Password:** 920932

1.	CALL TO ORDER
2.	MINUTES -7/16/2020 MEETING Chairman Callis  • Motion to Approve
3.	TREASURER'S REPORT - 8/31/2020Treasurer Weddington  • Motion to Accept
4.	MECKLENBURG COUNTY SNAPSHOT Angie Kellett, Director of Economic Development Tina Morgan, Director of Tourism
5.	CEDS OVERVIEW
6.	SPDC STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE Executive Director Gosney
7.	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT Executive Director Gosney
8.	OTHER BUSINESS Chairman Callis  • Recognition of Service
9.	ADJOURNMENTChairman Callis

The Southside Planning District Commission will make reasonable accommodations and services necessary for sensory-impaired and citizens with disabilities to attend this meeting. Additionally, translation services may be offered upon request and availability. Persons requiring such accommodations/services should contact Chad Neese at least seven (7) business days in advance of the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to Southside Planning District Commission, ATTN: Chad Neese, 200 S. Mecklenburg Ave., South Hill, VA 23970. Comments may also be submitted by phone at 434-447-7101, extension 211, or by email at cneese@southsidepdc.org.

# SOUTHSIDE PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION Regular Quarterly Meeting July 16, 2020

A regular quarterly meeting of the Southside Planning District Commission (SPDC) was held in the Commission Conference Room, 200 South Mecklenburg Avenue, South Hill, Virginia on July 16, 2020. Chairman Kim Callis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Callis recognized two new members recently appointed to the Commission – Joseph Chandler III representing the Town of South Boston and Joseph Taylor, Jr. representing the Town of South Hill.

Due to the nature of the COVID-19 Declaration of a State of Emergency and pursuant to Code 2.2-3708.2, this meeting was held by electronic communications, via the Zoom electronic platform. The catastrophic nature of this declared emergency made it impractical and unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location and the purpose of this meeting was to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue the operations of the Southside PDC. This meeting was recorded as required by FOIA for electronic meetings. Roll call votes were taken on all action items.

Executive Director Gosney called the roll. With 17 Commissioners being present, a quorum was met for this meeting.

The Roll Call is as follows:

BRUNSWICK COUNTY	Present	Absent
Garland Baird		X
Bernard Jones, Sr.		X
Alfonzo Seward		X
Leslie Weddington - Treasurer	X	
John Zubrod	X	
HALIFAX COUNTY		
Stanley Brandon	X	
William Claiborne		X
Ronnie Duffey	X	
Sandra Garner-Coleman	X	
Jerry Lovelace	X	
David Martin		X
Garland Ricketts	X	
Scott Simpson		X

MECKLENBURG COUNTY	Present	Absent
M. J. Colgate	X	
Andy Hargrove	X	
Landon Hayes, Jr.		X
Charles Jones	X	
Angie Kellett		X
Charlie Simmons	X	
Glanzy Spain	X	
Tom Tanner	X	
SOUTH BOSTON		Mintellane (1)
Joseph Chandler		X
Winston Harrell	X	
George Leonard	X	
Ernest Vass		X
SOUTH HILL		
Kim Callis - Chairman	X	
Lillie Feggins-Boone	X	
Joseph Taylor		X
TOTAL	17	11

# Staff in Attendance:

Deborah Gosney, Executive Director Lisa McGee, Administrative Assistant Stephanie Creedle, Finance Director/HR

# PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Callis asked for public comments. Hearing none, the public comment period was closed.

# APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

JOHN ZUBROD MADE A MOTION THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LILLIE FEGGINS-BOONE AND BY ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL COMMISSIONERS VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY.

# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Callis reported that the Executive Committee met both in-person and virtually on June 25, 2020 and discussed the following:

- 1. The FY21 Budget and Management Plan were presented and approved.
- 2. The FY21 EDA Planning Grant and FY21 VDOT Rural Transportation Work Program contracts, both requiring match dollars, were approved.
- 3. Executive Director Gosney provided an update of recent activities including new COVID-related grants, the VAPDC Virtual Summer Conference and a Bylaws amendment update.

M. J. COLGATE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JOHN ZUBROD AND BY ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL COMMISSIONERS VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY.

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The January 23, 2020 minutes were previously dispensed to members for review.

GLANZY SPAIN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 23, 2020 MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY TOM TANNER AND BY ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL COMMISSIONERS VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Weddington presented the financial report as of May 2020 as follows: Assets, \$1,329,028.48; Liabilities, \$1,064,925.20; Retained Earnings, \$228,869.89; and Net Balance, \$35,233.49. Expenditures to date totaled \$746,075.99, which is 80 percent of the annual budget. The expenditures are on target for FY20.

JOHN ZUBROD MADE A MOTION THAT THE MAY 2020 TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ANDY HARGROVE AND BY ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL COMMISSIONERS VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY.

# **FY21 BUDGET & MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Executive Director Gosney presented the FY21 Budget and Management Plan, as adopted by the Executive Committee on June 25, 2020, with a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment to salaries. She reviewed the FY21 Budget first.

The FY21 Revenue is as follows:

# FY21 Revenue

Member Jurisdiction Dues	\$ 123,992.50
Revenue Brought Forward	495,071.00
New Revenue Approved	355,771.00
Deferred Revenue	(36,500.00)
Interest Income	12,000.00
Total Revenue	\$950,334.50

# The FY21 Expenditures are as detailed below:

# **FY21 Expenditures**

Direct Chargeable Salaries	\$337,305.38
Employee Fringe Benefits	219,339.79
Travel/Per Diem	10,000.00
Other Direct Cost – Grants	10,000.00
Other Direct Cost – S/L	40,000.00
Indirect Costs	299,730.11
Total Revenue	\$916,375.28

Mrs. Gosney noted that Revenues exceed Expenditures by \$33,959.22.

Next, Mrs. Gosney referred Commissioners to the FY21 Management Plan. She gave a brief overview of each section. This document is our work program and is sent to many of our funding agencies.

M. J. COLGATE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FY21 BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JOHN ZUBROD AND BY ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL COMMISSIONERS VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY.

# VDOT SMART SCALE RESOLUTION

In an effort to demonstrate regional support for all Smart Scale grant applications being pursued by the jurisdictions within our District, the Commission adopted the following resolution of support:

## RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

# SMART SCALE APPLICATIONS

WHEREAS, in the 2014 legislative session the Virginia General Assembly passed House Bill 2, now known as Smart Scale, which provided for the development of a prioritization process for projects funded by the Commonwealth Transportation Board; and

WHEREAS, the projects submitted by localities within the Southside Planning District address specific needs identified in VTrans, Virginia's multimodal transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, all projects are specifically identified in the Southside Planning District Commission's 2045 Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan and/or in the 2019 U.S. 58 Arterial Preservation Plan for the counties of Brunswick and Mecklenburg; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southside Planning District Commission endorses the following projects located within its jurisdiction as candidates for the Commonwealth Transportation Board's Smart Scale project prioritization process:

- 1.) Brunswick County Intersection improvements for US 58 and Robinson Ferry Road.
- 2.) Brunswick County Intersection improvements for US 58 and Brunswick Square Shopping Center, and US 58 and Cattail Drive/Twin Ponds Road.
- 3.) Brunswick County Intersection improvements for US 58 and Brunswick Square Shopping Center, US 58 and Cattail Drive/Twin Ponds Road, and lengthen acceleration/deceleration lanes on the west side of US 58/VA 46 interchange.
- 4.) Town of Clarksville Intersection improvements for US 58 Bus, US 15, VA 49 (Roundabout).
- 5.) Halifax County Intersection improvements for US 58 and Piney Grove Road.
- 6.) Halifax County Intersection improvements for US 501 (LP Bailey Memorial Hwy/N Main St) and VA 360 (Bethel Rd).

- 7.) Mecklenburg County Intersection improvements for US 58 and Regional Airport Road, and US 58 and Brown Town Road.
- 8.) Town of South Hill Intersection improvements for US 58 and Country Lane.
- 9.) Town of South Hill Intersection improvements for US 58 and Old Highway Fifty-Eight (Roundabout), and construct new connector road from Cycle Lane to Old Highway Fifty-Eight/High Street.
- 10.) Town of South Boston Intersection improvements for US 501 (Wilborn Street and Broad Street) and Crescent Drive (Roundabout).
- 11.) Town of South Boston Intersection improvements for US 501, Factory Street, and Wall Street (Roundabout).

STANLEY BRANDON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE VDOT SMART SCALE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WINSTON HARRELL AND BY ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL COMMISSIONERS VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY.

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

<u>Active Projects</u> – SPDC Staff is currently administering 25 projects throughout the three-county region with grant funds totaling \$11,389,342. These projects are listed in detail on the SPDC Active Projects List.

<u>Pending Projects</u> – There are 13 grant applications pending that, if funded, will result in an additional \$8,913,747 in grant dollars invested in our communities.

<u>VDOT MAP-21 Pending Applications</u> – Three MAP-21 applications were submitted in October 2019 totaling \$1,939,250 in requested grant dollars.

- 1. <u>Lawrenceville Tobacco Heritage Trail Project</u> (\$471,812) Tentatively selected by VDOT for funding; Board will meet in the fall and formally award project.
- 2. South Hill Downtown Project (\$953,417) Not selected for tentative award.
- 3. <u>Lawrenceville Sharp Street</u> (\$514,121) Tentatively selected by VDOT for funding; Board will meet in the fall and formally award project.

<u>CDBG Pending Construction Applications</u> – Two construction applications were submitted April 2020 totaling \$2,398,861 in requested grant dollars. The Governor's announcement is expected soon.

- 1. <u>Brunswick County Chestnut Road Scattered Site Project</u> (\$1,000,000)
- 2. <u>La Crosse Pine Street Community Project Phase 2</u> (\$1,398,861)

<u>CDBG Pending COVID Applications</u> – Three applications were submitted to DHCD requesting COVID CDBG funds totaling \$1,500,000 to provide grants of approximately \$15,000 to eligible small businesses.

- 1. Brunswick County Small Business Recovery Project Submitted June 2020 (\$500,000)
- 2. <u>Mecklenburg County Small Business Recovery Project</u> Submitted June 2020 (\$500,000)
- 3. South Boston Small Business Recovery Project Submitted June 2020 (\$500,000)

Other Pending Applications – Applications submitted to other funding agencies that are pending approval; a total of \$3,042,636 in grant dollars requested.

- 1. South Boston Riverdale Acquisition Project (VDEM) Submitted May 2019 (\$2,522,636)
- 2. <u>Chase City Robert E. Lee Building Community Impact Study (VHDA)</u> Submitted May 2020 (\$20,000)
- 3. <u>Chase City Robert E. Lee Building Disaster Assistance (DHR)</u> Submitted July 2020 (\$250,000)
- 4. <u>Brunswick County Sledge & Barkley Building Disaster Assistance (DHR)</u> Submitted July 2020 (\$250,000)

<u>CDBG 2021 Applications</u> – Three projects have been identified for next year's CDBG March 2021 construction round. Planning grants are pursued for these projects to fund the required activities and documents needed for the upcoming applications. Planning grants received to date total \$33,000.

- 1. <u>Brodnax Hwy 58 & Dornia Housing Rehab Planning Project</u> Awarded 08/15/19 (\$30,000)
- 2. <u>South Boston N. Main Street Housing Rehab Planning Project</u> Awarded 06/23/20 (\$3,000)
- 3. South Hill 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Comprehensive Planning Project Submitted July 2020 (Pending)

<u>New Projects in Development</u> – Currently, we have ten projects in the development phase with plans to submit funding applications over the next few months.

<u>CEDS Five-Year Update</u> – The CEDS is near completion, and the 30-day public comment period will be advertised soon utilizing local websites and newspapers. The CEDS will be directly emailed to the stakeholders that attended the Community Input Session in December and to local government managers/mayors and economic development organizations. We plan to formally adopt the CEDS at the October Annual Meeting.

<u>SPDC Assessment and Strategic Plan</u> – Staff submitted a grant application to VHDA in May requesting funds to secure a consultant to perform an assessment and prepare a strategic plan for the PDC. Part of the process will be to take a hard look at the current Bylaws to make needed changes. The Bylaws Committee has been formed and will be engaged in the review process. We anticipate receiving feedback soon on the grant application.

<u>EDA-COVID-Non-Competitive Grant</u> – As a result of the COVID Pandemic, EDA submitted an invitation to all Economic Development District's (EDD's) to apply for up to \$400,000 in non-competitive funds with a no match requirement. The funds are to be used solely for COVID-related activities/initiatives. The PDC responded to the invitation and applied on June 1, 2020. The Notice-of-Award was received July 2, 2020. Funds will be used to apply for and administer COVID-related projects, create a comprehensive small business/industry database, and update the CEDS to include a Pandemic Response Plan.

<u>Lake Country Development Corporation</u> – The Micro-Loan Pool was amended to accommodate the special needs of small businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic. To date, a total of ten (10) loans have been made.

<u>GO Virginia</u> – SPDC Staff is currently providing administrative support services for eight (8) GO Virginia Projects.

<u>Upcoming SPDC Meeting</u> – Our next meeting is the Annual Dinner Meeting scheduled for October 15, 2020. We have not confirmed the location or the caterer just yet. Future meetings are scheduled for January 28, 2021, April 22, 2021, and an Executive Committee Meeting on June 17, 2021.

<u>Staff Updates</u> – The SPDC now has Ann Taylor Wright, CTW Consulting, LLC, working with us as Contract Staff. She is assisting with all COVID-related projects and initiatives. She is also assisting with the CEDS five-year update.

<u>OTHER BUSINESS</u> – Chairman Kim Callis was re-elected as President of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commission (VAPDC) for another term. Executive Director Deborah Gosney was re-elected to serve on the Board of Directors as well.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Kim Callis, Chairman SPDC

Deborah Gosney, Secretary

# SOUTHSIDE PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION Annual Meeting October 15, 2020

# TREASURER'S REPORT

# THE AUGUST 2020 BALANCE SHEET SHOWS THE FOLLOWING FIGURES:

ASSETS	\$ 1,583,541.36
LIABILITIES	1,311,784.18
RETAINED EARNINGS	236,571.90
NET BALANCE	35,185.28

EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 2020 TOTALED \$147,978.10 WHICH WAS 16.15% OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET. EXPENDITURES ARE ON TARGET FOR FY21.

FY21 - Balance Sheet August 31, 2020

<u>ASSETS</u>	
Current Assets	
Operating Account	\$ 182,851.59
Go Virginia Account	43,993.51
Reserve Funds - VIP	935,136.47
Accounts Receivable	205,241.54
Deferred Outflows - VRS	162,857.83
Total Current Assets	1,530,080.94
Fixed Assets	
Equipment	65,038.07
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(63,560.48
Vehicle	34,400.00
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(27,400.00
Leasehold Improvements	51,186.58
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(22,985.91
Total Fixed Assets	36,678.26
Other Assets	
Principal Financial Group	16,782.16
TOTAL A COPIEC	0 1 800 841 0
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,583,541.36

	ATTENDED TO THE
LIABILITIES & FUND I	BALANCE
Current Liabilities	
Deferred Program Income	\$127,159.0
Go Virginia Escrow	43,993.5
Net Pension Liability	978,626.0
Payroll Liabilities	3,666.9
Accrued Annual Leave	39,944.9
Accounts Payable	93,199.8
Deferred Inflows - VRS	25,194.0
Total Current Liabilities	1,311,784.1
Fund Balance	
Retained Earnings	236,571.9
Net Balance	35,185.2
Total Fund Balance	271,757.1
7. 1993	······································
TOTAL LIABILITIES &	
FUND BALANCE	\$1,583,541.3

# FY21 - Revenues & Expenditures Period Ending August 31, 2020

REVENUES	FY21 Budget	8/31/2020	YTD	Balance
<b>在如原的用模型用型以次米用了在2000年</b>				
SPDC Member Jurisdiction Dues	\$ 123,992.50	\$ -	\$ 123,992.50	\$ -
	\$ 123,992.50 70,000.00	\$ -	\$ 123,992.30	70,000.00
EDA FY21 Planning Grant		-	-	75,971.00
DHCD FY21 Contract	75,971.00	-	-	
VDOT FY21 Rural Transportation Contract	58,000.00	-	-	58,000.00
Lake Country Development Corporation - Staff Services	20,000.00	45.00	-	20,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	45.00	45.00	45.00	11.555.00
Interest Income	12,000.00	208.95	444.20	11,555.80
Program Income Paybacks	496.00	486.00	496.00	-
Local Government Projects:				
Alberta Tobacco Heritage Trail - VDOT	20,000.00	-	-	20,000.00
Brodnax Depot - VDOT	32,000.00	-	-	32,000.00
Brunswick County Alvis Road - CDBG	22,500.00	-	-	22,500.00
Chase City Endly Street - Phase I - CDBG	40,500.00	6,400.00	6,400.00	34,100.00
Chase City Endly Street - Phase II - CDBG	82,500.00	18,150.00	19,100.00	63,400.00
Civil Rights and Education Heritage Trail Expansion	2,500.00	-	-	2,500.00
Clarksville Planter's Warehouse	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00
GO Virginia SO/FA - FY20 Allocation	36,500.00	5,938.45	15,920.06	20,579.94
GO Virginia SO/FA - FY21 Allocation	80,000.00	-	-	80,000.00
Deferred to FY22	(36,500.00)	-	-	(36,500.00)
GO Virginia - GO-TEC 1	9,000.00	-	E -	9,000.00
GO Virginia - GO-TEC 2A	3,767.00	-	-	3,767.00
GO Virginia - GO-TEC 2B	16,554.00	-	-	16,554.00
Halifax County Tobacco Heritage Trail Ext - VDOT	5,250.00	-	-	5,250.00
Halifax County Meadville Road Housing - CDBG	44,000.00	-	-	44,000.00
La Crosse Pine Street - Phase I - CDBG	81,500.00	950.00	3,539.00	77,961.00
Lawrenceville Sidewalks - VDOT	3,000.00	-	-	3,000.00
Lawrenceville North Main Street - VDOT	8,000.00	-		8,000.00
Mecklenburg County Quail Hollow Housing- CDBG	63,000.00	4,176.62	4,176.62	58,823.38
South Boston Greene's Crossing Landing Boat Launch	14,500.00	-	-	14,500.00
South Boston John Randolph Hotel Renovation	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00
Brunswick County Sheriff's Office - GIS	4,800.00	400.00	800.00	4,000.00
Halifax County - GIS	23,000.00	1,500.00	4,250.00	18,750.00
Mecklenburg County - GIS	24,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	20,000.00
intollioning County Clo	2 1,000.00		.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
TOTAL REVENUES	950,875.50	40,255.02	183,163.38	767,712.12

Revenue and Expenditures Period Ending August 31, 2020

	FY21			
EXPENDITURES	Budget	8/31/2020	YTD	Balance
DIRECT COSTS				
Direct Chargeable Salaries	\$ 337,305.38	\$ 27,044.18	\$ 50,492.03	\$ 286,813.35
Employee Fringe Benefits Applied	219,339.79	18,133.54	35,694.76	183,645.03
SUBTOTAL	556,645.17	45,177.72	86,186.79	470,458.38
Travel and Per Diem	10,000.00	90.29	133.61	9,866.39
Other Direct Costs Charged to Grants	10,000.00	-	-	10,000.00
Other Direct Costs Charged to State/Local Funds	40,000.00	4,393.63	5,200.67	34,799.33
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	616,645.17	49,661.64	91,521.07	525,124.10
INDIRECT COSTS				
Indirect Salaries	85,223.46	7,314.12	14,318.22	70,905.24
Employee Fringe Benefits Applied	58,496.65	3,585.74	7,527.75	50,968.90
SUBTOTAL	143,720.11	10,899.86	21,845.97	121,874.14
Auditing	8,000.00	-	-	8,000.00
Consumable Supplies	7,000.00	181.79	286.06	6,713.94
Commissioner's Expense/Meetings	10,000.00	-	749.93	9,250.07
Equipment, Rental, Maintenance, Use	8,000.00	832.72	1,927.66	6,072.34
Insurance and Bonding	6,000.00		5,764.00	236.00
Officer's Expense/Stipend	500.00	-	-	500.00
Membership Fees and Dues	5,000.00	-	3,800.00	1,200.00
Publications/Subscriptions	500.00	21.00	60.00	440.00
Printing	2,500.00		116.81	2,383.19
Space and Occupancy Costs	25,000.00	2,273.84	4,358.71	20,641.29
Travel - Indirect Staff  Travel - Services Western Conference Conf	500.00	-	-	500.00
Training, Seminars, Workshops, Conferences  Postage and Freight	500.00 2,500.00	11.05	11.05	500.00
Telephone	8,000.00	11.95 110.54	11.95 619.92	2,488.05
Auto Operations & Maintenance	5,000.00	38.44	130.70	7,380.08 4,869.30
Public Relations	1,000.00	30.44	130.70	1,000.00
Depreciation Depreciation	6,500.00	436.92	873.84	5,626.16
Legal Fees	2,000.00	- 430.72	075.04	2,000.00
Software Licensing	20,000.00	(23.53)	(900.59)	20,900.59
Consultant - CTW Consulting LLC	37,500.00	5,600.00	11,360.00	26,140.00
SUBTOTAL	156,000.00	9,483.67	29,158.99	126,841.01
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS	299,720.11	20,383.53	51,004.96	248,715.15
				2 10,1 20120
TOTAL BENEFITS ADJUSTED TOTAL EXPENDITURES	016 265 20	(3,682.44)	5,452.07	768,387.18
	916,365.28	66,362.73	147,978.10	/08,38/.18
AGENCY BALANCE	\$ 34,510.22	\$ (26,107.71)	\$ 35,185.28	
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS				
VML Disability	\$ 2,441.69	\$ 198.30	\$ 396.60	\$ 2,045.09
Vacation Leave Pay	33,632.31	2,574.70	7,634.62	25,997.69
Sick Leave Pay	19,411.54	1,252.12	2,211.18	17,200.36
Holiday Pay	29,117.31	•	1,748.88	27,368.43
Workmen's Compensation	504.70	-	-	504.70
Group Hospitalization	68,640.00	5,005.00	18,663.00	49,977.00
VRS Group Life Insurance	6,762.98	507.76	1,015.52	5,747.46
Taxes - FICA	38,609.55	2,631.86	5,269.84	33,339.71
Taxes - Unemployment	588.80	1.47	3.68	585.12
VRS Retirement	78,127.56	5,865.63	11,731.26	66,396.30
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - ACTUAL	277,836.44	18,036.84	48,674.58	229,161.86
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - APPLIED (9010)		(21,719.28)	(43,222.51)	
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - ADJUSTED		\$ (3,682,44)	<b>\$</b> 5,452.07	



October 15, 2020

Southside Planning District Commissioners and Executive Committee Members:

On behalf of the SouthEast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI) Council of Peers; I am excited about working with you on this Strategic Planning effort to enhance the future relevancy of YOUR Southside Planning District Commission (SPDC).

This will be the 56<sup>th</sup> strategic assessment/planning effort of a regional development organization (RDOs)/PDCs by SERDI since 1994. Assessments/strategic planning efforts in Virginia include Roanoke Valley-Alleghany RC, Northern Shenandoah RC, Central Shenandoah PDC, West Piedmont PDC, Cumberland Plateau PDC, New River Valley RC, Central Virginia PDC, and, the George Washington RC.

The strategic planning effort will include the following segments:

Building Online Surveys. There will be five (5) online surveys administered beginning October 19th through November 6th. There will be a survey for the (1) Southside PDC Commission (2) Local Government Elected Officials (3) County and Town Administrators and Managers (4) Southside PDC Staff; and, (5) Other Regional Partners.

The surveys will be administered by SERDI through Survey Monkey. The link for each survey will be provided to the participants by the SPDC.

The results of the surveys, except for the staff survey, will become part of the complete record report of the project.

One-on-One Interviews. Twenty-five (25) individuals that are seen as current or future key leaders that are or should be influential in the future of the Southside region and/or the Southside PDC. These interviews will be conducted via Zoom or by telephone, the choice left up to those individuals being interviewed. The interviews will take place in November.

The results of the interviews will not be part of the complete record report of the project. The summary of each interview will be prepared in a document that will be provided to the Executive Director for her use as a tool to make Southside PDC more relevant. The information provided in the document will not be attributed to any individual. It is up to the discretion of the Executive Director on how, if at all, the information in the document is distributed.



• Focus Groups. There will be four (4) focus group sessions held during early December. The session will be for County and Town Administrators; Economic Development & Town and County staff; Public Works & Emergency Heads; and SPDC Staff. The purpose of focus groups will be to glean in an interactive session via Zoom, the groups' thoughts on what is good about Southside PDC; what concerns them about Southside PDC; what services that aren't being provided currently by the PDC that would be helpful to local governments in the region; what services are currently being provided that need to continue and strengthened, etc.

The staff session will be held last in large part, as a debrief and reaction session for the staff.

The results of the focus group sessions, not including the staff session, will become part of the complete record report of the project.

- Commissioners/Local Government Officials Work Session. A work session will be held in mid-January. It would be great to think that the work session could be held in-person but if need be it could be held via Zoom. The purpose of the work session will be to (1) Review the findings of the data development of the project (2) present potential recommendations based on the findings to enhance and make more relevant the Southside PDC; and, (3) discuss the future direction and succession strategies for the Southside PDC.
- Complete Record Report. Within 30 days of the completion of the Commissioners/Local Government Officials Work Session, SERDI will present to the Southside PDC the complete record report. The report will include strategic assessment recommendations, succession strategies, and an appendices that includes the results of the online surveys and focus group sessions. A separate document will be provided summarizing the one-on-one interviews.

Again, on behalf of the SERDI Council of Peers, I look forward to working with you and being part of the process to enhance the role of YOUR PDC for the local governments and your regional partners.

Sincerely,

Jim Youngquist SERDI Staff

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501-766-5659 cell/text

# FY21 "A YEAR IN REVIEW" EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & STAFF REPORT July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITIES**

#### July 2020

- Received EDA approval on July 2<sup>nd</sup> for the \$400,000 EDA COVID non-competitive funds awarded to SPDCs that are EDDs.
- Orientation Meeting with Alfreda Reynolds, Brunswick County's newly hired Economic Development Director.
- Continuing to finalize the CEDS 2020-2025 five-year update; the 30-day public comment period will be advertised soon.
- Attended the virtual VAPDC Summer Conference Series. Topics included 1) The Other Side of DOVID-19-A Futurist's View; 2) Travel, Tourism and Leisure-Seeking to be Stronger; 3)
   Transportation and Mobility Reimagined-Making transportation Future Ready; and 4) Virginia PDC's-Regional Responses and Resources.
- Participated in DHCD hosted state-wide GO Virginia Support Organization Conference Calls.
- Attended the virtual VAPDC Annual Business Meeting. Chair Kim Callis was reelected as President for a second year and Deb was reelected to serve on the Board of Directors for a second year.
- Attended the virtual GO Virginia Region 3 Council Meeting and presented the Financial Report.
- Held the hybrid SPDC Quarterly Meeting.
- Re-submitted the grant application (July 20<sup>th</sup>) to VHDA with the suggested changes to fund the SPDC Assessment and Strategic Plan.
- Prepared and submitted the FY20 Year-End EDA Progress Performance Report.
- Received notification from VDOT of the tentative award of the Lawrenceville Tobacco Heritage Trail Project and the Lawrenceville Sharp Street Project.
- Submitted written requests to U.S. Senators and Congressmen to support the defederalization of EDA RLF funds.
- Working with staff on preparing a Tobacco Heritage Trail spreadsheet that captures the trail
  projects funded and administered over the years. Once created, this spreadsheet will be updated
  on a regular basis as new projects are awarded.
- Working with staff on the preparation of an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP), both due Decembers 2020, for all three counties. These plans will need to be updated every four years.
- Emailed CEDS Project List to all local governments requesting updates to the list.

# August 2020

- The GO Virginia MBC Middle Project was officially approved August 4, 2020 for a total of \$100,000 to prepare design & specifications.
- Attended the virtual VAPDC Board meeting.
- Received the Governor's Announcement on August 12, 2020 on the approval of two CDBG applications – Chestnut Road Scattered Site Housing Rehab Project and Pine Street Neighborhood Project-Pse 2.
- Received the award letter from DHCD on the South Hill 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Neighborhood Improvement Planning Project.

- Toured the Lake Country Advanced Knowledge Center CITE Program Space.
- Calls and email exchanges with several localities to finalize the CEDS Project List.
- Viewed VCC's Refocus and Rebuild Second Webinar Series.
- Prepared and submitted a support letter to EMPOWER for a fiber project to serve residents living in Tanglewood Shores.
- Attended the virtual GO Virginia Executive Committee Meeting and presented the Financial Report.
- Advertised for a Community Project Manager to provide a third person to fulfill grant writing and administrative tasks.
- Participated in DHCD hosted state-wide GO Virginia Support Organization Conference Call.
- Received notification from DHR on August 20<sup>th</sup> that two grant applications were approved for improvements to the Sledge & Barkley Building in Lawrenceville and the Lee Building in Chase City.
- Published the CEDS 30-Day Public Comment Period in the local newspapers, posted on the SPDC website and sent direct email notifications to regional stakeholders.
- Orientation call with Daniel Finz, recently hired Lawrenceville Town Manager.
- Prepared and submitted the DHCD Annual Report on August 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended the virtual VAPDC Program Committee & Executive Directors Meetings.
- Received notification from VHDA on August 28<sup>th</sup> that the Capacity Building Grant to perform the SPDC Strategic Plan was approved; Southeast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI) was procured and contracted to prepare the Plan.
- Conference Call with FEMA concerning COVID staff and programming support.

#### September 2020

- Participated in a virtual Orientation Meeting with Jim Youngquist, Advisor for SERDI, to provide details on the operations of SPDC staff and roles of SPDC Commissioners. The Bylaws and Charter were reviewed.
- Worked with staff on the preparation and completion of the SPDC FY20 Annual Report
- Received an email from Vincent Maiden, Brownfields Program Coordinator, with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality DEQ) notifying the PDC that DEQ is planning to submit a proposal for an EPA Brownfields Planning & Assessment Grant that would allow DEQ to conduct environmental assessments, planning, and public engagement activities on abandoned and underutilized brownfield properties across the Commonwealth. He asked if the SPDC would be willing to participate by identifying the reuse of these types of properties within the PDC region area for renewable energy projects. Examples include old landfills, industrial sites, etc. Staff reached out to each County to determine willingness to participate and several brownfield sites were identified throughout the region. An objective supporting the reuse of abandoned sites to be considered for renewable energy projects/initiatives was added to the CEDS in support of this proposal. The application is due October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Prepared and submitted the GO Virginia FY20 Annual Report.
- Participated in the GO Virginia Virtual Communications Committee Meeting.
- Participated on the Mecklenburg County Application Review Team for the Tourism and Arts Grants to Non-Profits Program that utilized COVID CARES-Act funds.
- Interviewed four (4) candidates for the SPDC Community Project Manager position. Erika Tanner was chosen and accepted the position on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. She will start her employment with the PDC on November 1<sup>st</sup>. We are very excited to her on our team and believe she will truly be an asset to the Commission and the communities that we serve.
- Attended the Virtual GO Virginia Executive Committee Meeting and presented the Financial Report.
- Reviewed SPDC Strategic Plan Scope of Work Proposal -first draft-prepared by Jim Youngquist, SERDI. Met with staff, made a few changes, and participated in a call with Jim to review and discuss.

- Call with Bryan David, GO Virginia Program Director, concerning the Sites Development Readiness proposed grant application to raise all of Region 3 industrial sites to VEDP defined Tier 4.
- Worked with Staff on the Performance Measures and Appendix documents for the 2020 CEDS.
- Participated in the virtual SERDI Annual Training Conference. Topics included 1) Why do you do
  Marketing; 2) Importance of Communications and Relations with your Board of Directors and Local
  Government Officials; 3) Taking a Deeper Dive in Key Aspects of Marketing and Communication:
  Public Engagement & Policy Management; and 4) Executive Directors and Social Media.
- Attended the virtual GO Virginia State Board Meeting.
- Finalized the CEDS Project List and emailed to the local governments for final review and approval.
- Conference Call with Lindsay Barker with VEDP to review COVID projects and initiatives in the PDC region.
- Attended the virtual VAPDC Board of Directors & Executive Directors Meetings.

# SPDC STAFF - PROJECTS, PLANS, & SERVICES

Active Projects – Staff is currently administering 37 active projects throughout the three-county region with grant funds totaling \$17,800,538. These projects are listed in detail on the SPDC Active Projects List.

<u>VDOT MAP-21 Pending Applications</u> – Three MAP-21 applications were submitted in October 2019 totaling \$1,939,250 in requested grant dollars. Two of the three projects received tentative award in July of 2020; final Board decisions will be made in the Fall.

- 1. Lawrenceville Tobacco Heritage Trail Project (\$471,812) Tentatively selected by VODT for funding; Board will meet in the fall and formally award project.
- 2. South Hill Downtown Project (\$953,417) Not selected for tentative award.
- 3. Lawrenceville Sharp Street (\$514,121) Tentatively selected by VODT for funding; Board will meet in the fall and formally award project.

Other Pending Applications – Applications submitted to other funding agencies that are pending approval.

1. South Boston Riverdale Acquisition Project (VDEM) – Submitted May 2019 (\$2,522,636)

<u>CDBG Approved Applications</u> - Two construction applications were submitted April 2020 totaling \$2,398,861 in requested grant dollars. The Governor announced on August 12, 2020 that both projects were selected for funding.

- 1. Brunswick County Chestnut Road Scattered Site Project (\$1,000,000)
- 2. La Crosse Pine Street Neighborhood Project-Phase 2 (\$1,398,861)

<u>CDBG Approved COVID Applications</u> – Three applications were submitted to DHCD requesting COVID CDBG funds totaling \$1,500,000 to provide grants of approximately \$15,000 to eligible small businesses. The projects were awarded on August 7, 2020.

- 1. Brunswick County Small Business Recovery Project Submitted June 2020 (\$500,000)
- 2. Mecklenburg County Small Business Recovery Project Submitted June 2020 (\$500,000)
- 3. South Boston Small Business Recovery Project Submitted June 2020 (\$520,000)

Other Approved Applications – Three grant applications were funded totaling 3520,000 in grant dollars.

- 1. Chase City Robert E. Lee Building Community Impact Study (VHDA) Submitted May 2020 (\$20,000); Awarded September 15, 2020.
- 2. Chase City Robert E. Lee Building Disaster Assistance (DHR) Submitted July 2020 (\$250,000); Awarded \$150,000 on August 20, 2020.

3. Brunswick County Sledge & Barkley Building Disaster Assistance (DHR) — Submitted July 2020 (\$250,000); Awarded \$150,000 August 20, 2020.

<u>CDBG Approved Planning Grants - 2021 Applications</u> – Three projects have been identified for next year's CDBG March 2021 construction round. Planning grants are pursued for these projects to fund the required activities and documents needed for the upcoming construction applications. Planning grants received to date total \$36,000.

- 1. Brodnax Hwy 58 & Dornia Housing Rehab Planning Project Awarded 08/15/19 (\$30,000)
- 2. South Boston N. Main Street Housing Rehab Planning Project Awarded 06/23/20 (\$3,000)
- 3. South Hill 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Comprehensive Planning Project Awarded 08/19/20 (\$3,000)

<u>New Projects in Development</u> – Currently, we have ten (10) projects in the development phase with plans to submit funding applications over the next few months.

- 1. Boydton WWTP Expansion Project (EDA)
- 2. Clarksville WWTP & WTP Improvement Project (RD)
- 3. Chase City Sewer Improvement Project (CDBG & RD)
- 4. Middle Mile Broadband Fiber Extension Project (EDA & GO Virginia)
- 5. SOVA Innovation Hub Corporation Tech Hub Project (EDA)
- 6. South Hill Water Line Project (EDA-COVID)
- 7. Chase City Robert E. Lee Building Brownfield Project (DEQ/VEDP)
- 8. Brunswick County Sledge & Barkley Brownfield Project (DEQ/VEDP)
- 9. Regional Housing Market Assessment Study (VHDA)
- 10. South Hill Southern VA Food Hub Food Insecurity Project Letter of interest submitted May 2020

<u>VDOT FY21 Work Program</u> – Staff is currently working on the following transportation activities:

- 1. Grant Writing Nine Smart Scale grant applications were submitted in August 2020 totaling \$55,723,943 in requested transportation funds.
- 2. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Plan Update Staff has been collecting data from a VDOT placed trail counter approximately every two weeks. Statistics can be found at the following website address: http://www.eco-public.com/ParcPublic/?id=4161#. Work has been completed on tentative survey questions and they have been organized by theme (bike, pedestrian, trail) into smaller surveys. They will be reviewed by the planning committee prior to being made available to the public.
- 3. Tobacco Heritage Trail Staff is assigned to participate in all trail Board meetings which are held at the PDC office. Staff continues to provide assistance in researching records, creating maps, and updating the THT website as needed. New trail maps have recently been created and placed in kiosks located at numerous trailheads and access points.
- 4. Title VI Plan Staff has revised the Plan to reflect any recent changes within the SPDC and updated the local demographics and maps for each County within the District.

Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan – The Plan officially became "current" on September 2, 2020 and will have an expiration date of September 1, 2025 per FEMA's Letter of Approval. All localities who participated in the update process will need to pass a resolution adopting the Plan for FEMA and VDEM view them as having a "current" plan. Adopting the Hazard Mitigation Plan will also make those localities eligible for future grant funds through FEMA and VDEM. As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, the towns of Brodnax, South Boston, South Hill, Virgilina, and the county of Mecklenburg have all adopted the Plan.

<u>CEDS 2020 Update</u> – The CEDS 2020 Update was finalized. The 30-day public comment period was advertised as required in the local newspaper, posted on the SPDC Website, and directly emailed to the CEDS Committee and local stakeholders. The CEDS 202-2025 Project List was also updated. The CEDS will be presented at the SPDC October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting for adoption.

<u>SPDC Assessment and Strategic Plan</u> – Staff submitted a grant application to VHDA in May requesting funds to secure a consultant to perform an assessment and prepare a strategic plan for the PDC which was approved on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Southeast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI) was procured and contracted to prepare the Plan. Participated in a virtual Orientation Meeting with Jim Youngquist, Advisor for SERDI, to provide details on the operations of SPDC staff and roles of SPDC Commissioners. The Bylaws and Charter were reviewed; the Bylaws Committee has been formed and will be engaged in discussions concerning proposed changes. Deb reviewed the first draft Scope of Work Proposal prepared by Jim. Met with staff, made a few changes, and participated in a call with Jim to review and discuss.

<u>EDA-COVID-Non-Competitive Grant</u> – As a result of the COVID Pandemic, EDA submitted an invitation to all Economic Development District's (EDD) to apply for up to \$400,000 in non-competitive funds with a no match requirement. The funds are to be used solely for COVID-related activities/initiatives. The PDC responded to the invitation and applied on June 1, 2020. The Notice-of-Award was received July 2, 2020. Funds will be used to apply for and administer COVID related projects, create a comprehensive small business/industry database, and update the CEDS to include a Pandemic Response Plan. Funds must be fully expended by June 30, 2022.

Emergency Operations Plans/Continuity of Operations Plans - The SPDC is working with the Counties of Brunswick, Halifax and Mecklenburg to update their existing Emergency Operations Plans (EOP) and to create a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for each of them. The EOP focuses on the safety and protection of life and property through a coordinated response to disasters or other emergency events. The COOP's purpose is to address how essential functions of the County government will continue to be performed during times of disasters or other emergency events. The Plans are projected for completion end of December.

Regional GIS Technical Assistance to Member Counties – Staff provides contractual GIS services to all three member counties. These services include 911 map/data updates, address point and centerline management, assistance with 911 MSAG/ALI issues, assistance with NG911 initiatives, and compliance with 911 GIS standards. Each County greatly benefits from this regional approach as 911 GIS operations are largely the same from County to County and many hours can be saved by approaching tasks on a regional basis. Other services include GIS mapping for other County departments, on-site requirements, new address assignments, assistance with specific GIS projects, and planning/zoning mapping.

#### LAKE COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Lake Country Development Corp. (LCDC) was formed in 1981 as a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation responsible for the administration of revolving loan funds to promote job creation in the Southside Planning District Region. Loan funds are provided to qualifying companies locating or expanding in the three-county region. Lake Country is a lender of "last resort".

Macro-Loan Pool - Total Loans-58; Paid in Full-49; Defaulted Loans-4; Active Loans-5

Micro-Loan Pool – Total Loans-2; Paid in Full-1; Active Loan-1

Total Jobs Created-1,858 Total Jobs Retained-98

Total LCDC Funds Loaned-\$10,297,319 Matched Private Funds-\$48,430,608

<u>COVID Emergency Loan Fund</u> - The Micro-Loan Pool was amended to accommodate the special needs of small businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic. To date, a total of ten (10) loans have been made.

#### **GO VIRGINIA**

GO Virginia is an initiative by Virginia's senior business leaders to foster private-sector growth and job creation through state incentives for regional collaboration by business, education, and government. **The Southside PDC serves as the Support Organization and Fiscal Agent for GO Virginia Region 3.** Region 3's footprint incorporates the geographic boundaries of three PDC's - West Piedmont PDC, Southside PDC, and Commonwealth Regional Council. These three PDC's collectively cover 13 counties (Amelia, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Henry, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, Patrick, Pittsylvania, and Prince Edward) and two cities (Martinsville and Danville). Deb attends monthly Full Council and/or Executive Meetings and is responsible for the recording and distribution of the meeting minutes. The website address for GO Virginia Region 3 is **govirginia3.org**.

SPDC Staff is currently providing administrative support services for eight (8) GO Virginia Projects. These projects are listed in detail on the GO Virginia Active Projects List.

- 1. GO-TEC, Phase 1(\$648,000-Per Capita Pool) This initiative received GO Virginia's largest competitive grant awarded to date and will help extend the region's lauded talent pipeline to middle schools with the introduction of Career Connections labs. Awarded 02/13/18
- 2. SOVA Innovation Hub (\$80,000 Per-Capita/ECB Pool) Awarded 07/25/18; Completed 9/30/20
- 3. GO-TEC Phase 2A (\$1,320,787-State Competitive Pool) Awarded 03/12/19
- 4. Entrepreneurship & Innovation Investment Strategy (\$100,000-Per Capita/ECB Pool) Awarded 08/19/20 The Strategy positions Southern Virginia as a national model for rural entrepreneurship development and connects and enhances the entrepreneurship ecosystem which is the infrastructure necessary to help entrepreneurs thrive.
- 5. IALR Major Clarity Platform Project (\$90,140-Per Capita/ECB Pool) Awarded 04/15/20
- 6. Operation Last Mile Drone Project (\$75,000-COVID ERR Pool) Awarded 04/15/20
- 7. SVRA/VGA Bridge to Recovery Project (\$925,000-COVID ERR Pool) Awarded 06/23/20
- 8. GO-TEC Phase 2B (\$3,575,741-State Competitive Pool) Awarded 06/23/20
- 9. MBC Middle Mile Fiber Extension Project (\$100,000-Per Capita/ECB Pool) Awarded 08/04/20

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Staff Updates

- Contract Staff On July 1, 2020 Ann Taylor Wright, CTW Consulting, LLC, joined the PDC as contract staff. She is assisting with all COVID related projects and initiatives. She is also assisting with the CEDS five-year update.
- New Hire We are excited to report that Erika Tanner will be officially joining PDC Staff as the new Community Project Manager on November 1, 2020. Erika and her husband live in Mecklenburg County. Erika will be responsible for grant writing, project administration, and other duties as requested by the PDC Local Governments.
- Congrats to Andy Wells We are excited to report that on September 11, 2020 Governor Ralph
  Northam announced administrative appointments, which included one of our own staff. Andy Wells
  was appointed by the Governor's Office to serve a two-year term on the Virginia Geographic
  Information Network (VGIN) Advisory Board.

VGIN's geospatial resources have been a huge asset to this organization dating back to 2002 when the agency created the first statewide aerial orthophoto data. We use many of VGIN's services,

including statewide GIS data such as aerial photos, transportation layers, and administrative boundaries. We often utilize VGIN's GIS server capacity and other technical resources, and we also work with VGIN to conform our data with statewide standards. In the past few years, VGIN has played a critical role in the transition of Virginia's 911 system to Next-Generation 911 and our GIS staff works very closely with VGIN staff on that project. Without VGIN, our district-wide GIS services would likely be diminished and more costly.

Andy has worked diligently to upgrade mapping and GIS details in our region. This not only assists with regional planning but serves as resources for emergency services. His appointment to this Advisory Board will allow Andy to share best practices as well as increase his knowledge base from other regional resources.

Andy has been with the Southside Planning District Commission full time for 17 years. Andy worked 3 years part time while attending college.

• Ashleigh Zincone, Senior Planner and Sangi Cooper, Senior Planner are serving on the DHCD CDBG Housing Advisory Committee.

#### **VAPDC** Updates

- VAPDC held their Annual Business Meeting on July 16 2020. Kim Callis who served as VAPDC President this past year was re-elected to serve another year. Deborah Gosney who served on the Board of Directors last year was also reelected to serve another year.
- Kim Callis, VAPDC President submitted two letters on behalf of VAPDC 1) Letter dated July 2, 2020 to Lauren Stuhldreher, Virginia Economic Development Representative, written in support of Virginia Tourism Corporation's EDA grant application totaling \$3.5 million for tourism and economic development initiatives in Virginia and 2) Letter dated September 8, 2020 to Linda Cruz-Carnall, EDA Regional Director, written in support of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development's EDA grant application for innovative broadband pilot programs that deliver service to impoverished Virginians.

#### **NADO Updates**

Defederalization of EDA Revolving Loan Fund — After years of federal reporting and abiding by federal guidelines, NADO has accomplished defederalization of the Revolving Loan Fund that is administered by Lake Country Development Corporation. Having already been passed in the Senate on August 6, the bill will now be sent to the President's desk for his signature. This legislation reforms the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program by eliminating burdensome "in perpetuity" reporting requirements and releasing the federal interest in EDA RLFs after seven years, providing more local flexibility to EDA RLF operators as they administer the program on behalf of their communities. NADO is grateful to all the NADO members, coalition partners, and other advocates who engaged members of Congress and helped advocate for this reform, as well as the Senate and House champions who introduced and supported this legislation, and the Congressional staffers who helped facilitate the process.

<u>Upcoming SPDC Meetings</u> - Our next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2021. Future meetings are scheduled for April 22, 2021, and an Executive Committee Meeting on June 17, 2021.