

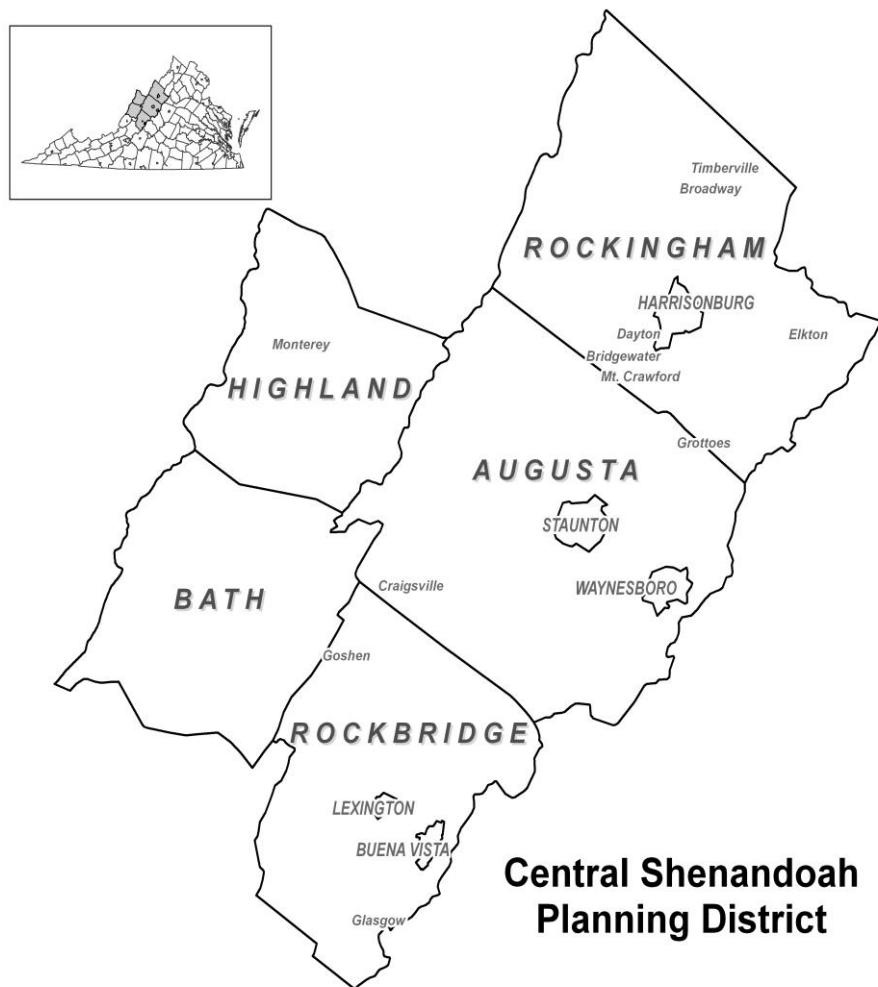
Central Shenandoah Strategic Plan

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

**Report & Update
2017**



**Submitted
December 1, 2017**



This report was prepared by the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC). The CSPDC was chartered on September 30, 1969 and is comprised of five counties, five cities, and eleven towns. For over forty years, the CSPDC has been providing assistance to local governments and their citizens with issues including land use planning and regulation, transportation, disaster mitigation and preparedness, solid waste management, economic development, water and waste water, emergency management, housing, water resource management, and human services. The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission makes every effort to respond to the changing needs of the citizens of the Central Shenandoah Valley. Should you have any questions, please call or email us.

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**Central Shenandoah
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
2017 Report & Update**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Organization and Management	2
Key Regional Strategic Initiatives.....	4
Environmental Focus	5
Economic Development Focus.....	6
Inter-Governmental Cooperation and Partnership Focus.....	9
Infrastructure Focus.....	10
Community Focus	11
Economic Development Activities	12
Environmental Focus	12
Economic Development Focus.....	13
Inter-Governmental Cooperation and Partnership Focus.....	18
Infrastructure Focus.....	20
Community Focus	24
Evaluation of Year's Activities.....	26
Economic Development Project List	27
Appendix	
A. CSPDC & SVP Board Minutes	
B. CEDS Committee Membership	
C. Key Regional Strategic Initiatives Stakeholder List	

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Central Shenandoah Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is to guide the economic growth of the region. It provides a mechanism for coordinating the efforts of individuals, organizations, local governments, State and Federal government, and private industry concerned with economic development. Working together, common objectives may be implemented more effectively throughout the region.

The CEDS process includes analysis, vision, action planning, and evaluation based upon the input and participation of stakeholders. Deliverables from this process include new investment, the creation and retention of jobs, and a more stable and diversified regional economy.

The CEDS is part of a broader regional strategic planning effort. Many stakeholders involved with economic development are also involved with other aspects of the region's strategic planning efforts. The initial strategic plan and CEDS were developed in 2000 as a result of the Shenandoah Valley Summit. At that time, the regional partners approved a cooperative statement entitled *The Shenandoah Destiny*. This cooperative statement forms the basis for the Key Regional Strategic Initiatives. The statement reads as follows:

Our Region will work cooperatively, as one, to conserve our natural, agricultural, and historical resources and preserve the heritage, natural beauty, values, local character and rural traditions that continue to provide the Central Shenandoah Valley Region of Virginia with a quality of life known around the world. Equally, we will promote and celebrate our differences and diverse cultures by recognizing the uniqueness and special needs of each sub-region, locality and community. Towards these ends, we will create a stellar economic climate, develop technologically advanced business sites and infrastructure, provide financial and technical assistance, and educate and train our workforce to support businesses and economic sectors that hold values and characteristics consistent with our Region, including both new and existing businesses, 21st Century manufacturing, entrepreneurs, tourism and agriculture. For, in the Valley of the Stars, aspirations imagined are aspirations achieved!

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC) was formed on September 30, 1969, through the adoption of an inter-local agreement by the counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockbridge and Rockingham and the cities of Buena Vista, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton and Waynesboro. Membership on the CSPDC Board of Commissioners is based upon population. Twenty-one (21) individuals representing the ten-member localities comprise the CSPDC Board's membership.

The CSPDC was instrumental in helping form the Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP), the regional economic development marketing agency. The SVP is comprised of representatives from the public and private sectors. SVP's funding is secured from annual allocations from the member localities and contributions from the private sector. Twenty-eight (28) individuals representing the public and private sectors comprise the SVP Board's membership. (See Appendix A for CSPDC and SVP Board Minutes and Appendix B for CEDS Committee Membership)

The overall CEDS process is one of continuous review and process adjustment as conditions warrant. Annually, the Key Regional Strategic Initiatives (KRSI) programs and projects are reviewed and updated. The KRSI are then implemented during the year by individual member localities, the CSPDC and SVP, as appropriate. The programs and projects are evaluated and changed as necessary during the year or as part of the annual update.

The combined leadership from the CSPDC, as the Economic Development District, and the SVP, as the economic development marketing agency, form the CEDS committee for planning economic development efforts in the Central Shenandoah region. To achieve a strong regional partnership, input from other agencies and stakeholders is received through various working relationships, both formal and informal. Among the many involved are local economic development organizations, private sector representatives, local government representatives, Workforce Investment Board, and James Madison University. (See Appendix C for Stakeholders List)

Stakeholders are engaged in a variety of ways including formal meetings of the CSPDC and SVP Boards and committees, existing business roundtable discussions, annual meetings of stakeholders, and various program presentations. Additionally, the SVP Marketing Committee conducts a strategic planning retreat. At the retreat, the committee reviews its goals and results, considers its target sectors, and evaluates its successes as well as its opportunities for improvement.

The twenty-one Key Regional Strategic Initiatives (KRSI) included in the region's CEDS are grouped into focus areas. The division of the KRSI into focus areas provides a clearer connection on how the strategy relates to economic development. The five focus areas are as follows:

1. Environmental
2. Economic Development
3. Inter-Governmental Cooperation and Partnership
4. Infrastructure
5. Community

The CEDS process relies on the numerous organizations and individuals to keep the CEDS updated and useful. Each year, the Key Regional Strategic Initiatives are reviewed by the region's stakeholders. Additionally, the project list is updated to reflect the status of projects as being planned, implemented, or completed. This not only helps to understand the magnitude of efforts supporting economic development, but it also helps to "round out" the Regional Strategic Plan.

The staff for the CEDS committee includes the following: Bonnie Riedesel, CSPDC Executive Director; Elizabeth McCarty, CSPDC Program Manager/Economic Development Planner; Carrie Chenery, SVP Executive Director, and Joan Hollen, SVP Marketing Specialist.

GO Virginia Initiative

To enhance, reinforce, and complement its existing economic assets, the Commonwealth of Virginia introduced an effort to promote regional economic identity and cooperation. This effort, called the GO Virginia initiative, is a collaboration designed to promote private-sector economic growth and diversification across the Commonwealth of Virginia through the creation of nine economic development regions to assess and target new investment and innovation in high-income and export-oriented industry sectors. The CSPDC lies within GO Virginia Region 8. Region 8 spans the Shenandoah Valley and comprises two planning districts, the CSPDC and the planning district to its north.

The GO Virginia initiative presented an opportunity for the CSPDC as well as other economic regions around Virginia to develop a deeper understanding of their current capacities and find innovative solutions to leverage their existing strengths to promote economic development. During the summer of 2017 an Economic Growth and Diversification Plan was prepared for GO Virginia Region 8. This plan was focused on growing industries that generate high-wage jobs. It complements the CSPDC's CEDS but does not replace it as the CEDS is broader in its strategies for economic growth in the region. The data from the Economic Growth and Diversification Plan, however, is extremely useful in understanding current trends in the CSPDC region and its comparison to other parts of Virginia.

KEY REGIONAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Background

The Central Shenandoah region came together in 2000 through a multi-faceted strategic planning process that developed the initial Key Regional Strategic Initiatives (KRSI) and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). This process was sponsored and conducted by CSPDC and SVP. Co-sponsors included James Madison University's Office of Economic Development and Partnership Programs, Blue Ridge Community Center for Training and Development and Dabney S. Lancaster Community College's Office of Continuing Education and Workforce Services.

In order to obtain the broadest possible input, the following groups were targeted to participate in the process to develop the KRSI and CEDS: private sector leaders; organizations and entrepreneurs; public sector elected officials; administrative officials; public works and social service directors; employment and training sector leaders; educators including secondary education, community colleges, universities, technical schools and adult education; agricultural interests; natural resource and environmental conservation organizations and agencies; tourism professionals; women; minorities; senior citizens; disabled persons; human service agencies and community based organizations.

Through the CEDS process, economic development competitiveness was defined as:

- Financial and technical assistance;
- Industrial sites and infrastructure;
- Business climate;
- Workforce; and
- Quality of life

These are reflected through the Key Regional Strategic Initiatives. These initiatives provide a guide, or roadmap, for each locality and organization to develop their own priorities and efforts to support these goals. It also encourages them to endorse and support key regional programs and projects.

Current Update

The Key Strategic Regional Initiatives (KRSI) are updated annually so that they remain relevant in the current regional economy. Both the CSPDC and SVP Boards approve the KRSI and CEDS. No new strategies were added during the most recent review process.

Additionally, the activities that support the implementation of the 21 Key Regional Strategic Initiatives are reviewed each year. These are outlined below by focus area. Specific programs and projects are further described under Economic Development Activities beginning on Page 12. Finally, the Economic Development Project List for the region is updated (Page 27).

Key Regional Strategic Initiatives

Anticipated implementation activities are listed under each Key Regional Strategic Initiative. These activities are intended to strengthen the economic competitiveness of the region and its communities.

Environmental Focus

1. Promote the development of quality of life and eco-friendly regional land use policies that balance economic development with conservation of natural, agricultural, and historical resources and preservation of natural beauty, heritage, local and regional values, and character. Pursue smart growth strategies.
 - a. Assist localities in preparing and updating plans, special studies or regulations.
 - b. Provide assistance to localities as they update their comprehensive plans.
 - c. Support revitalization efforts of historic economic centers.
2. Support the establishment of agricultural and forestal districts.
 - a. Partner with conservation organizations such as the Valley Conservation Council and the Rockbridge Area Conservation Council, as appropriate.
 - b. Serve on the committees such as the Upper James Resource Conservation and Development Council.
 - c. Provide assistance to localities as they update their comprehensive plans.
3. Plan for effective use and conservation of air and water resources. Partner with Federal, State and local stakeholders to engage in proactive water supply planning efforts to address water source quantity and quality issues.
 - a. Work with DEQ on its TMDL (stream quality) improvement program.
 - b. Assist localities in meeting Virginia's stormwater management regulations.
 - c. Coordinate the Central Shenandoah Stormwater Network to assist localities in managing effective and compliant stormwater programs.
 - d. Maintain and coordinate the use of the Illicit Discharges Identification equipment kit that is shared by the region's localities.
 - e. Work on initiatives to support the Upper James Resource Conservation and Development Council in achieving its mission.

Economic Development Focus

4. Distinguish the Shenandoah Valley as a regional model of an innovation ecosystem that catalyzes resources and accelerates high tech growth through model strategic alliances among business/industry, government, and higher education partners.
 - a. Partner with localities along the I-81 Corridor from Wytheville to Strasburg to promote the Greater Shenandoah Valley and New River Valley for economic development purposes.
 - b. Continue to develop and implement economic development strategies and effectively market the region.
 - c. Support the GO Virginia Region 8 Council and projects that implement Region 8's Economic Growth and Diversification Plan.
5. Emphasize existing secondary and higher education, vo-tech, adult education, and workforce training programs which support targeted existing or new business sectors and review for gaps in curriculums. Enhance and work towards 21st century technologies at all education and training levels.
 - a. Support the Shenandoah Valley Partnership's Education and Workforce Committee.
 - b. Coordinate with the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board.
6. Identify, promote and invest in regionally significant business niches and sectors that are compatible with the economic, cultural and resource bases of the region and that can produce sustainable economic opportunity and returns to local communities and the region.
 - a. Participate in the SVP Marketing Committee strategic planning process.
 - b. Continue to administer the Cost-of-Living Survey.
 - c. Continue to publish and distribute *Facts and Figures*.
 - d. Continue to provide updated demographic and economic data through the Regional Data Center.
 - e. Provide information on demographic and economic trends.
 - f. Implement the Strategic Plan for the Fields of Gold Regional Agritourism Program.
 - g. Continue to support and promote the Bike the Valley program.
 - h. Distribute information on available grants to localities and provide grant writing technical assistance.
 - i. Update and maintain the Grant Resource Center.
 - j. Partner with the Small Business Development Center, Staunton Creative Community Fund, Virginia Department of Business Assistance, and additional revolving loan programs that support small business.
 - k. Support incubator centers.
 - l. Support asset based development.

7. Recognize tourism as a diverse and viable economic development engine with emphasis on regional heritage; eco-tourism; agritourism; arts & culture; appropriate hospitality providers including inns, bed & breakfasts; and outdoor recreation sectors.
 - a. Continue to develop the region's bicycle and pedestrian program.
 - b. Assist Rockbridge area in implementing its outdoor recreation plan and strategy for Braiding the Way.
 - c. Assist Rockbridge area in the transition of Natural Bridge into the state park system.
 - d. Promote the region as an agritourism destination.
 - e. Promote the region as a bicycle destination.
 - f. Support efforts for a regional Tour de Farm program.
 - g. Assist Rockbridge area in funding a wayfinding signage program.
 - h. Assist localities in developing local and regional tourism maps.
 - i. Assist localities adjacent to the Blue Ridge Parkway/Skyline Drive as they implement the recommendations of their gateway studies.
 - j. Distribute information on available grants to localities and provide grant writing technical assistance.
 - k. Support downtown revitalization activities.
8. Develop and implement a strong existing business retention and expansion program that compliments the economic investment strategy of the region.
 - a. Continue to support SVP and our member localities in their business retention and expansion efforts.
 - b. Develop sub-regional economic development asset maps.
 - c. Assist in implementing workforce development strategies.
 - d. Support revolving loan programs for small businesses.
 - e. Promote the Education and Training Database developed by the Shenandoah Valley Partnership and Blue Ridge Community College.
9. Promote and enhance development of an efficient and effective regional health care infrastructure with emphasis on access to services, affordability, workforce development, and regional cooperation.
 - a. Encourage the target sectors of healthcare and bio-technology.
 - b. Distribute information on available grants to localities and provide grant writing technical assistance.
 - c. Continue to coordinate with Augusta Health on public transit services.

10. Seek ways to support and utilize to the greatest extent the increasingly diverse mix of races, ethnicities, countries of origin, and special needs populations in our regional workforce and to effectively integrate the knowledge, skills, and abilities of all peoples into the economic base of the region.
 - a. Provide disaster education and emergency preparedness training to persons with special needs and human services organizations that serve special needs populations.
 - b. Support programs that provide alternative transportation options for special needs populations.
 - c. Provide public transportation for persons with disabilities or those without a vehicle.
11. Recognize agriculture as a vital element of the economy and focus on opportunities to ensure the long-term economic viability and productivity of agricultural lands.
 - a. Supplement the Regional Data Center with agricultural data.
 - b. Serve on the committees of the Upper James Resource Conservation and Development Council and the Shenandoah Valley Food and Farm Network.
 - c. Continue to grow Fields of Gold, a regional agritourism program.
 - d. Distribute information on available grants to localities and provide grant writing technical assistance that support agriculture.
 - e. Continue to add agricultural resources and information to the Fields of Gold website.
 - f. Provide business support services to farmers, and specifically agritourism businesses.
 - g. Support efforts to increase direct producer to consumer sales of agricultural products through farm to fork expos.
12. Capitalize on economic development opportunities through business expansion and increased research and development in areas of renewable energy and green jobs. Fossil fuel emissions will be reduced in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and, to the maximum extent practicable, maximizes benefits for local and regional communities.
 - a. Distribute information on available grants to localities and provide grant writing technical assistance and grant administration services.
 - b. Support continued education and training in advancing energy efficiency and conservation projects.
 - c. Continue to update the Energy Program page on the CSPDC website and disseminate information on energy efficiency and conservation.

Inter-Governmental Cooperation and Partnership Focus

13. Develop effective leadership invested in supporting mutually productive partnerships between localities that improve efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of governmental services. Encourage more collaborative efforts between school divisions.
 - a. Maintain and update the Regional Data Center.
 - b. Maintain and update the information provided on the CSPDC website.
 - c. Provide comprehensive plan update assistance to the cities, counties and towns of the CSPDC region.
 - d. Provide regional planning assistance for major projects and programs such as economic development planning and marketing, water supply planning, solid waste supply planning, community development planning.
 - e. Update regional solid waste management plans, as needed.
 - f. Staff the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO.
 - g. Staff the Rural Transportation Technical Advisory Committee.
 - h. Continue a regional on-call consultants program for professional services.
 - i. Administer and staff the Fields of Gold agritourism program.
 - j. Administer and staff the Bike the Valley program.
14. Continue development of regional leadership and finances for the Central Shenandoah Valley.
 - a. Administer and lead the EDA Economic Development District Program.
 - b. Administer and lead the ARC Local Development District Program.
 - c. Prepare grant applications for funding for programs of regional and local interest and benefit.
 - d. Leverage local dollars with grants and private investments to help the region achieve the objectives of the Key Regional Strategic Initiatives.

Infrastructure Focus

15. Support enhancement of regional multimodal transportation planning efforts that will provide adequate regional mobility and accessibility.
 - a. Provide administrative and planning support for Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO.
 - b. Provide administrative and planning support for the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO.
 - c. Provide administrative and planning support for the Rural Transportation Technical Advisory Committee.
 - d. Administer and grow the regional bicycle and pedestrian program.
 - e. Monitor VDOT's Six-Year Improvement Plan and its impacts on the region.
 - f. Provide traffic impact analysis for local governments.
 - g. Develop transportation planning and assistance programs for local jurisdictions.
 - h. Provide grant assistance for VDOT's Transportation Alternatives program.
 - i. Provide grant assistance and technical assistance for the Safe Routes to School program.
 - j. Assist in developing SMART SCALE project applications for rural and MPO localities.
 - k. Expand the Rideshare Commuter Program.
 - l. Administer the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro public transit system, BRITE.
 - m. Partner with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission to address common corridor planning issues, particularly along Interstate 64.
16. Promote planning and enhancement of the region's technology and telecommunications infrastructure.
 - a. Support the expansion of the Rockbridge County, Buena Vista, and Lexington broadband network.
 - b. Support activities of the Shenandoah Valley Technology Council.
 - c. Assist Bath County with implementing its E-911 Center.
 - d. Support the development of broadband in Augusta, Rockingham, Bath and Highland Counties.
 - e. Provide technical assistance for broadband expansion.
 - f. Update the Broadband information on the CSPDC website and disseminate information on broadband resources.
 - g. Assist localities in seeking funding for broadband planning and projects.
17. Support measures that provide reliable and efficient sewer and water systems and anticipate future capacity needs.
 - a. Assist localities in seeking funding for infrastructure planning and projects.
 - b. Help localities map existing infrastructure in GIS.
 - c. Prepare for updates to multi-jurisdictional water supply plans.

Community Focus

18. Recognize the uniqueness and special needs of each sub-region, locality, and community, while providing for the growth and prosperity of the entire region.
 - a. Provide technical assistance to member localities to assess their economic and community development needs and support local projects and initiatives.
 - b. Develop an economic development asset map of the region.
19. Promote disaster resistance in Central Shenandoah Valley communities through disaster preparedness and mitigation education, mitigation projects, and all-hazards planning.
 - a. Sponsor CERT training for Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro.
 - b. Provide regional pre-disaster education and emergency preparedness training.
 - c. Seek funding and support for community flood mitigation projects.
 - d. Assist Bath County with its Continuity of Operations Plan and Continuity of Government Plan.
 - e. Implement the Augusta County Wildfire Protection Plan.
 - f. Prepare and distribute a Central Shenandoah Regional Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness calendar.
20. Develop a regional plan and program that integrates affordable workforce housing within urban and rural areas of the region to meet employment needs, reduce personal travel expense and balance the cost of providing services to the workforce and their families.
 - a. Continue to provide the First-Time Homebuyer Program.
 - b. Support neighborhood and community housing production and housing rehabilitation projects.
 - c. Serve on management teams guiding community and housing improvement projects.
 - d. Assist Rockbridge County with the Greenhouse Village Mixed Income Housing project – Phase II.
 - e. Assist Bath County in its efforts to address the need for workforce housing.
21. Seek ways to support and utilize to the greatest extent the increasingly growing senior population segment in the central Shenandoah Valley.
 - a. Update and track demographic forecasting models that address the aging population of the Valley.
 - b. Support transit/transportation options for seniors.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The following list provides a summary of some of the major programs and projects that occurred during 2017 that support the Key Regional Strategic Initiatives and its focus areas. Although a project may relate to multiple focus areas, it is listed only under its primary focus area.

Environmental Focus

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP). The CSPDC developed Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) for James Madison University (JMU). A condition of JMU's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) was to develop these plans for facilities that have a high potential to pollute stormwater, such as the Resource Recovery Facility (recycling center) and ground maintenance and materials storage facilities. A site visit was conducted for each facility needing a SWPPP, where an inventory of existing procedures and practices that protect water quality is documented, and additional practices and procedures are recommended. These practices and procedures become the backbone of the SWPPP, and are accompanied by a training schedule; a site map with potential pollution areas, drainage structures and drainage areas identified; a list of the various materials that could become pollutants at the site; and inspection and maintenance schedules with contact information. The CSPDC developed SWPPPs for 12 sites on the JMU campus. The project was completed in 2017.

JMU Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). The CSPDC assisted James Madison University (JMU) with the biodiversity component of STARS. STARS is a self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance and earn public recognition for their rating level. One part of the rating is campus operations. The project included field work to identify environmentally sensitive areas, mapping of the data, and a report of findings.

Water and Stormwater Planning Assistance. The CSPDC consults with any member locality requesting assistance in addressing drainage, flooding, erosion, water quality, or other rainfall/run-off issues. The consultations consist of site visits and meetings with locality administrators, staff, elected officials, consultants, and occasionally citizens. Resulting project development activities often include identifying needs, developing strategies for addressing and funding proposed solutions, and positioning the locality to move forward on improvements.

Chesapeake Bay/TMDL Program. The CSPDC continues to coordinate with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), as needed, to provide information and assistance to the region's localities regarding the Chesapeake Bay TMDL and the Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) local engagement process.

Central Shenandoah Stormwater Network. The CSPDC coordinates the activities of the Central Shenandoah Stormwater Network. This group of seven localities meets quarterly to share strategies on complying with stormwater regulations. The group also partners on an outreach/education website focused on improving water quality.

Solid Waste Management Plans. The CSPDC assists in updating solid waste management plans and acts a liaison between counties and State agencies regarding the process and their approval by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). In 2017, CSPDC staff made updates to Rockingham County's solid waste plan. Additionally, the CSPDC annually prepares the annual recycling rate report for the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro region which was submitted in April 2017.

Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy Planning. The CSPDC maintains an Energy page on its website to provide resources and services related to renewable energy as well as energy efficiency and conservation.

Natural Bridge State Park. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), in cooperation with the Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund, Inc., began developing a master plan for the future Natural Bridge State Park which included numerous public meetings to seek community input. CSPDC staff served on a technical advisory committee to advise DCR about the Park's role in the region. The technical advisory committee is comprised of interested citizens, local business owners, local government officials, and conservationists and park users. Natural Bridge became a state park in September 2016.

Economic Development Focus

GO Virginia (Growth & Opportunity). GO Virginia is a statewide economic development initiative that provides a new framework for the strengthening the economy in each of the nine GO Virginia regions of the Commonwealth through enhanced collaboration by business, education, and local government. Certified in March, GO Virginia region 8 encompasses a large and diverse geographic area including the ten counties and cities within the CSPDC plus another six localities to our north. The Regional Council completed an Economic Growth and Diversification Plan in August. The Council is also responsible for overseeing the GO Virginia program in our region, soliciting applications for projects within the region, and recommending projects to the GO Virginia State Board for funding. The CSPDC serves as one of the support organizations to the GO Virginia Region 8 Council along with the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, Shenandoah Valley Partnership, and the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board. The CSPDC managed the RFP and planning process for Region 8's. Additionally, staff managed the application and selection process for GO Virginia Region 8 project funding.

Cost-of-Living Survey. The CSPDC administers, collects, organizes, and distributes data for the Cost-of-Living Index. This program surveys targeted businesses and other organizations for pricing for specified grocery, housing, utilities, transportation, health care items, and other consumer goods and services. The CSPDC participated in the January and July surveys.

Regional Data Center. The CSPDC has maintained a joint Regional Data Center (RDC) in conjunction with the Shenandoah Valley Partnership since 2002. The RDC contains over 175 demographic and economic measures, reports, and publications. Information is available for each of the five cities and five counties that make up the region, its four sub-regions, the CSPDC Region, and Virginia. The data is updated continuously, but historical data is maintained.

Economic Development App. The CSPDC is creating a GIS-based app to show the region's economic development assets. The app shows data related to workforce, higher education, employment centers, business incentive zones, and quality of life. When completed, this tool will be made available on the CSPDC's website and to the region's economic development partners.

Fields of Gold Agritourism Program. Fields of Gold is a regional agritourism program that is intended to create and retain jobs on the farm, expand tourism jobs off the farm, and nurture an environment for entrepreneurship. During 2017 the program was supported with funding from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and USDA-Rural Development. Funds are used to collectively market the Fields of Gold Farm Trail and its 230+ agritourism businesses as well as to provide business support services to those businesses. A highlight of 2017 was the development of two videos, a 1.5 minute Fields of Gold promotional and a 7.5 minute Meet the Farmers video. The shorter video follows a family as they participate in a variety of activities along the Farm Trail. The longer video shares the history of farming in the Shenandoah Valley, the stories of our farmers, and how agritourism is a part of the long-term sustainability of their farms. The video is posted on the Fields of Gold website, local tourism websites, and Farm Trail business websites.

Farm2Fork Affair Food Expo. The Farm2Fork Affair introduces regional agricultural producers to large-scale consumers throughout Virginia. The CSPDC, through its Fields of Gold program, collaborated with Northern Shenandoah Valley tourism offices and the Buy Fresh, Buy Local program (Virginia Cooperative Extension) to organize and host the Farm2Fork Affair. The event, held in March, brought together agricultural producers and consumers (restaurants, schools, retail, and hospitality) to open new market opportunities for local producers and increase direct producer to consumer sales. Prior to the event, a Farm2Fork Ready Workshop was offered to producers participating in this tradeshow event. The workshop provided guidance on creating a professional presentation and developing working relationships with potential clients.

Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund (AFID) Planning Grant Program. The CSPDC was awarded a second \$35,000 AFID Planning Grant, administered through the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS). AFID funding is supporting the CSPDC's Agritourism Coordinator to carry out the marketing and business functions of the Fields of Gold program. During 2017, a consultant was hired to complete a funding development plan for the program.

Community Strong Program. The CSPDC was awarded a \$50,000 USDA Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) grant in June 2014 to develop and implement the Community Strong Program, a 3-year initiative. The CSPDC provides focused technical assistance to a group of small, economically distressed localities to build their capacity to address the challenges of community development and economic competitiveness. During 2017, the CSPDC completed action plans for the Town of Craigsville and the Town of Dayton. Additionally, the CSPDC provided project support to Rockbridge County, Lexington, and Buena Vista for the Braiding the Way outdoor recreation plan.

Rockbridge Area Master Recreation Plan. On behalf of the cities of Buena Vista and Lexington and the County of Rockbridge, the CSPDC submitted a regional application through the National Park Service's technical assistance program to develop a master recreation plan for the area, "Braiding the Way." The plan incorporates paddling, hiking, equestrian, and bicycling trails with historic and natural resources in the region to create a "braided" network of outdoor recreational assets. Assistance included an evaluation and assessment as well as organizational and promotional strategic planning. An online survey of visitors and residents was conducted to ask about their participation in outdoor activities. Data from the survey was used to generate an economic impact analysis. The CSPDC provided grant management, mapping, and staff support for the project.

Chessie Nature Trail. The Chessie Nature Trail (Rockbridge area) is a seven-mile long rails-to-trails facility owned by Virginia Military Institute (VMI) that parallels the Maury River between the Cities of Lexington and Buena Vista. It is part of the larger Brushy Hills to the Blue Ridge Parkway Greenways System, the "Brushy Blue," which begins west of the City of Lexington and connects to the George Washington National Forest and the Blue Ridge Parkway east of Buena Vista via a system of trails. The CSPDC assisted VMI in preparing an Eastern Federal Lands Access Program (EFLAP) application for a new pedestrian bridge over the South River. The project was awarded in Spring 2017. The project will restore the connectivity of the Chessie Trail and the larger Brushy Blue greenways network and will provide a safe, non-motorized river crossing and remove pedestrians and cyclists from a narrow, winding rural secondary road.

Local Economic Development Organizations. The CSPDC continues to work extensively with local economic development officials through project development and grant preparation activities. Additionally, the CSPDC provides information and research, as requested, for various projects and new businesses/industries locating in the region.

Virginia Economic Development Partnership. Interactions with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) are ongoing. During March, SVP hosted both a VEDP CEO visit and later a VEDP Business Investment Team visit. SVP hosted a VEDP staff familiarization tour of the Shenandoah Valley in September. During 2017, VEDP worked on a new strategic plan. Local economic development leaders were invited to participate in input sessions associated with this planning process.

Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board (SVWDB). The Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board is an incorporated, 501(c)(3) non-profit with numerous partners advancing broad workforce initiatives for 16 localities in northwestern Virginia including all 10 of the CSPDC localities. Three of SVWDB's five Valley Workforce Centers (American Job Centers) under the U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) operate in CSPDC localities. SVWDB pursues discretionary grants to address regional workforce needs. These grants are implemented under the brand, "Valley OJT." Highlights of 2017 include:

American Apprenticeship Initiative – SVWDB was awarded a \$4 million American Apprenticeship Grant in October 2015 from the U. S. Department of Labor (DOL) to expand registered apprenticeships in advanced manufacturing. As one of only three workforce boards in the nation to be awarded an American Apprenticeship Grant, the SVWDB's "Valley to Virginia" project will create 600 new apprenticeships in skilled trade occupations and promote the Journeyman credential as a workforce strategy to help address critical shortages in skilled trade occupations. As of November 28, 2017, the Valley to Virginia Registered Apprenticeship initiative has 266 apprentices and 49 employers engaged in the program. The SVWDB participated in a number of regional activities to recognize National Apprenticeship Week (November 13-19) and created three short videos to promote registered apprenticeship: *Getting Started with Registered Apprenticeship*, *How Does Registered Apprenticeship Benefit Employees?*, and *How Does Registered Apprenticeship Benefit Employers?*

OJT Wage Reimbursement Grant – On April 1, 2017, the SVWDB concluded a \$5 million DOL H-1B OJT grant to provide on-the-job training in manufacturing and healthcare. The grant served 92 employers through 577 contracts, exceeding the original goal of 310 contracts. Valley OJT added value to the region by developing deeper partnerships with business and economic development, stimulating new initiatives with workforce partners, and improving the effectiveness of the SVWDB to contribute to improved economic vitality in the region and 37 localities in western Virginia.

Local Workforce Plan – SVWDB developed a four-year local workforce plan that aligns with the Virginia WIOA Combined State Plan and was approved in June 2017 by the Virginia Board for Workforce Development. The SVWD will use the plan to guide development and implementation of strategic initiatives over the next four years.

American Job Center Openings – In July 2017, the SVWDB opened a comprehensive American Jobs Center (AJC) in Harrisonburg bringing together employment related services in one location to provide a true one-stop experience that is customer centered, job driven, and reduces duplication of resources and services among support agencies for job seekers and employers. Partners at the Harrisonburg AJC include Goodwill Industries of the Valleys (operator), Virginia Employment Commission, Skyline Literacy, the Department of Aging and Rehabilitation, Blue Ridge Community College, Adult Education and Family Literacy, and the Department of Social Services.

Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP). The Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP) works with public and private partners to successfully market the Shenandoah Valley and provide support to its partners to develop a positive economic development climate in our region. They do this at the local, regional, and state level to develop an economic climate for business success throughout the Shenandoah Valley. SVP is focused on new business attraction, existing business expansion, and workforce development. Among SVP's activities are:

Lead Generation – SVP contracted with a lead generation consultant to assist SVP in building relationships with companies and site selectors. Emphasis is placed on coordinating these meetings with other scheduled SVP marketing trips.

Trade Shows and Marketing Missions. A representative from the Shenandoah Valley Partnership attended the following:

- Pack Expo East, Philadelphia, PA
- Site Selectors Guild, Tucson, AZ
- Industrial Asset Management Council (IAMC), Tampa, FL
- Craft Brewers Conference, Washington, D.C.
- SelectUSA Investment Summit, Washington, D.C.
- Summer Fancy Food Show, New York, NY
- Southern Economic Development Council Annual Conference, Charlotte, NC
- Site Selectors Guild Annual Fall Conference, Seattle, WA
- European American Investment Council's FDI Seminar, Charlottesville, VA
- Industrial Asset Management Council's (IAMC) Fall Forum, Richmond, VA
- Private Label Manufacturers Association's (PLMA) Trade Show, Chicago, IL
- Consultant visits to New York City, New Jersey, St. Louis, Chicago

Events – The Shenandoah Valley Partnership hosted the following events:

- Shenandoah Valley Partnership Annual Meeting – The SVP Annual Meeting was held in July at Stable Craft Brewing. The meeting highlighted the Shenandoah Valley's food and beverage manufacturing assets. Katie Frazier, President of the Virginia Agribusiness Council, was the keynote speaker.
- Economic Development Forums – Held in April and October, SVP's bi-annual Economic Development Forums offer a summary of regional activity and networking opportunities

for investors. The keynote speaker for the spring forum was Stephen Moret, CEO of Virginia Economic Development Partnership. The fall forum, held at Massanutten Resort, focused on tourism with a presentation by the Shenandoah Valley Tourism Partnership. Mathias Smith, General Manager of Massanutten Resort, spoke to the diverse experiences the resort offers to residents and tourists, and David Mikula, President of Mikula-Harris, spoke on the importance of community branding and its role within a comprehensive economic development strategy.

- SVP Connect – SVP hosted two networking events in 2017, one in May at Natural Bridge State Park and the other in September at Basic City Beer Co. These events give SVP’s public and private investors an opportunity to network and learn about a local business.

Education and Workforce Database – SVP’s Education and Workforce Committee continues to maintain an award-winning education and training database. The database catalogs the region’s educational resources and makes them available online. This tool provides information for the region’s current employers as well as prospects.

Valley Career Hub Campaign – The first component of the campaign was a partnership with WHSV-TV3 through the “In-Demand Local Career Opportunities” series of TV spots promoting high-wage, high-growth, high-demand careers that do not necessarily require a four-year college degree, but do require further education after high school. The Valley Career Hub Campaign now includes additional TV, print, and social media outreach to encourage students, parents, and career switchers to consider a career in one of these high-demand occupations. SVP’s Education & Workforce Committee continues to brainstorm ideas to drive Valley Career Hub to its intended audiences. The focus is on integrating Valley Career Hub in the schools and developing social media campaigns to students/parent and existing workforce.

Inter-Governmental Cooperation and Partnership Focus

Data Requests. The CSPDC provides economic and demographic data on a regular basis to a variety of users, both public and private. The CSPDC maintains an extensive library of demographic, economic, census, and related data on the region, primarily in digital format.

Grant Assistance. The CSPDC identifies potential financial resources and prepares applications for a multitude of projects. With several projects, the CSPDC also provides administrative and grant management services. Key projects are listed under the corresponding Key Regional Strategic Initiative focus area.

Grants Resource Center. The CSPDC maintains a centralized grants center and resource guide for use by staff, member jurisdictions and planning partners. It is available on the CSPDC’s website (www.cspdc.org). The guide lists state and federal grant sources, eligibility criteria and requirements, application guidelines and deadlines. The guide is updated regularly.

GIS and Mapping. The GIS Department of the CSPDC performs spatial analysis and map production for regional, local, comprehensive, and strategic planning projects. Besides providing GIS analysis for local and regional planning projects, the GIS Department provides mapping support and planning assistance for many of our towns, cities, and counties as well as other organizations in the region. Projects include:

- Bath County Parcel Update
- City of Buena Vista Sewer and Water Mapping
- City of Buena Vista Zoning Map Update
- City of Buena Vista Parcel Maintenance Training
- Town of Broadway Zoning Map Update
- Town of Broadway Sewer and Water Mapping
- Town of Dayton Zoning Map Update
- Highland County Zoning Map Update
- Highland County Motorcycle Tourism Map
- James Madison University Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) Mapping

Community Analyst. The use of Community Analyst software is an additional tool that staff uses for geographic analysis. It is a web-based tool that provides GIS mapping software capabilities. The CSPDC uses Community Analyst to retrieve and analyze data by geographies not available through traditional resources. This technical assistance is available to the region's localities.

On-Call Consultant Program. The CSPDC established an on-call consultant program for use by the region's localities. The purpose of the program is to expedite projects and to reduce time, staff resources, and costs associated with the procurement process by local governments. Among the services available are transportation planning and design, environmental, basic civil engineering, and website and marketing services. In 2017, localities requested use of the on-call consultant program for eight projects.

CSPDC Website. The CSPDC website (www.cspdc.org) provides information about the CSPDC, its programs, commission members and staff, as well as the Grant Resource Guide and the Regional Data Center.

Agency Contacts. The CSPDC continues to maintain relationships with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Virginia Employment Commission, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Rural Development, Appalachian Regional Commission, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, and others to meet the current and future needs of our localities and to increase their economic competitiveness.

Planning and Technical Assistance. CSPDC provides general planning and technical assistance to local governments, human service organizations, business and industry, and the general public in the areas of economic development, community development, and environmental planning. Staff was involved in the following during 2017:

- Resilient Neighbors Network
- Shenandoah Valley Project Impact
- Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Bath County Continuity of Operations Plan/Continuity of Government Plan
- Rockbridge/Buena Vista/Lexington Regional Emergency Operations Plan
- Regional Wildfire Protection Plan
- City of Staunton Comprehensive Plan
- Town of Broadway Comprehensive Plan
- Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Rural Transportation Technical Advisory Committee
- CSPDC Public Transit Program (Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro)
- Hot Springs Small Area Intersection Study (Bath County)
- Inter-Regional Transit Study (Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro, Charlottesville)
- I-64 Corridor Study (Staunton to Charlottesville)
- Crozet Tunnel Multi-use Trail
- Bike the Valley Program
- Tour de Farm Program
- Staunton Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Staunton Bike-Pedestrian Master Plan
- Harrisonburg and Rockingham Bike-Walk Summit
- Rockingham Solid Waste Plan
- Bath-Highland Broadband Project
- Greenhouse Village Mixed Income Housing Project (Rockbridge County)
- BARC Solar Project (Rockbridge County)

Infrastructure Focus

Infrastructure Financing Workshop. In May, the CSPDC hosted a Water and Sewer Infrastructure workshop. The goal of the workshop was to provide participants with the needed resources to make financing decisions for water and sewer projects. The event included presentations from USDA Rural Development, Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, and Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project. Over 40 people attended.

Transportation Planning. CSPDC provides planning services, program administration and technical assistance for the Rural Transportation Planning Assistance Program, the Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO, and the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO. The CSPDC prepares Transportation Alternatives, Safe Routes to Schools, and other transportation related grants to fund transportation improvement projects throughout the region. In addition, the CSPDC completes corridor studies for localities and any other special transportation studies as needed.

Public Transit. Public transit is provided through BRITE bus, a combined urban-rural system, that ties together services operating in the Staunton, Augusta and Waynesboro area. These services include fixed routes as well as on-demand services. During 2017, the CSPDC solicited proposals and awarded a 5-year contract to Virginia Regional Transit to provide turnkey service for BRITE bus. On June 30, the ownership of the area's transit facility was transferred to the CSPDC. A comprehensive GIS inventory of all bus stops was completed, and new signs were installed. BRITE bus has gained a social media presence through the creation of Facebook and Twitter pages for the program. A consultant has been procured to develop a website for the BRITE Bus.

Transit Development Plan (TDP). A Transit Development Plan (TDP) for CSPDC's administered transit services was completed and adopted by the CSPDC Board of Commissioners in August 2015. The projects in the TDP focus on the development of a combined urban-rural system that ties together current services operating in the Staunton, Augusta and Waynesboro region. To date, improvements have included the launch of a unified brand called BRITE, the formation of a Transit Advisory Committee, and improvements to the Route 250 Connector, the Staunton Green and Silver Trolley routes, Stuarts Draft Link, and the Waynesboro Circulator routes. Additionally, in June 2017, ownership of the transit facility located in Fishersville was transferred to the CSPDC.

Rideshare Commuter Program. The CSPDC continues to implement a Rideshare Program with funding through the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT). This year, the Rideshare program completed a Long-Range Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan that covers Fiscal Years 2019-2024. Twenty-three strategic initiatives were developed and stratified into five categories - marketing and community outreach; carpool/vanpool/ride matching; employer services; alternative travel mode promotion; and TDM and regional planning and coordination. In the coming year, the Rideshare will begin the process of implementing these strategies. CSPDC staff has been doing extensive outreach through events with local chambers of commerce, having booths at organization wellness and benefits fairs, and one-on-one meetings with the human resource representatives of individual employers. A radio campaign focused on commuters aired this year.

Inter-Regional Transit Study. The CSPDC's two MPOs, Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro and Harrisonburg-Rockingham, along with the neighboring Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO are conducted a study to evaluate the feasibility of implementing transit service in the Interstate 81 and 64 corridors to better connect the cities of Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Charlottesville. The study is supported Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation. The Steering Committee members include representatives from Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO, Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO, Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO, the University of Virginia, James Madison University, and area transit providers like Harrisonburg Transit, Charlottesville Area Transit, JAUNT, and BRITE. The study includes results from a public survey which confirms the need for such a transit service, potential routing and stops, park and ride lot needs to support the service, costs for service provision, and potential funding sources, as well as organizational alternatives for service management and oversight. The next steps include refining the preferred service alternative and building consensus to move forward with future implementation.

Interstate 64 Corridor Study. The SHRP2 Interstate 64 Corridor Study is a collaborative effort between the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO and the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro MPO. The project focuses on the 40-mile Interstate 64 corridor between Charlottesville and Staunton. The project is made possible by funding provided by FHWA SHRP2 Implementation Assistance Program PlanWorks: Better Planning. Better Projects. Using FHWA's PlanWorks, a working group was formed with the goals of identifying corridor deficiencies, developing solutions, and building cross-boundary and cross-disciplinary partnerships. The study will be completed by the end of the calendar year. The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, the applicant, contracted with the CSPDC to perform a portion of the project activities.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Projects. The CSPDC provides administrative services for SRTS projects. The City of Buena Vista continued work on its first SRTS project at Enderly Heights Elementary School. The project will fill gaps in the sidewalk network and create a new pedestrian entrance to the school yard away from the area for bus arrivals and student drop-offs by car. The City of Staunton began engineering and design of a SRTS project for Bessie Weller Elementary School for bike/ped improvements, including the installation of pedestrian activated crossing lights at three intersections. The CSPDC assisted the City of Lexington in submitting a grant application for a SRTS project at Lylburn Downing Middle School.

Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program. The CSPDC provides administrative services for TA projects. During 2107, the Town of Glasgow began work on Phase I of the Blue Ridge Road Shared Use Path project. The CSPDC assisted in the application for two Transportation Alternatives Program grants administered through the Virginia Department of Transportation. Applications were submitted for the City of Lexington SRTS project at Lylburn Downing Middle School and Phase II of the Town of Glasgow Blue Ridge Road Shared Use Path. In 2017, projects awarded Transportation Alternatives funding included the City of Waynesboro South River Greenway Phase III extension and the Town of Bridgewater Riverwalk project.

Commonwealth Transportation Funding Prioritization Program. The CSPDC provided technical assistance to local staff as they prepared applications through what is known as SMART SCALE in advance of the 2018 round of applications. 2017 was the first year that the SMART SCALE projects shifted to an every-other year schedule, with SMART SCALE applications being submitted in even years. Odd-year application programs include TA/SRTS, Revenue Sharing, Highway Safety Improvement and Bike and Pedestrian Safety.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. The CSPDC supports and coordinates a regional bicycle and pedestrian program which provides for a coordinated and strategic approach to the development of a network of bikeways, trails, and greenways and makes recommendations for improvements to bicycling and pedestrian facilities and programs in the region. During the first half of 2017, CSPDC staff provided assistance to the Staunton Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee. CSPDC staff also participated in Staunton's Bike & Walk Day and Harrisonburg's Bike to Work Day; both were held on May 19.

Bike the Valley Program. Bike the Valley is a regional marketing program that promotes the Shenandoah Valley as a premier bicycling destination in the eastern United States. In February, Bike the Valley was awarded a \$12,500 Virginia Tourism Corporation Marketing Leverage Program grant which is being used to rebrand the nearly decade-old program. Massanutten Resort and Bryce Resort were partners on this application. The current website was migrated to a mobile-ready platform. With the new logo completed, a new rack card and print ad have been designed. The next step in rebranding is to update the program's webpage to better appeal to the needs of visiting cyclists and to grow bicycle and outdoor recreation tourism throughout the region.

Bike-Walk Summit. The Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition and the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization, in partnership with the City of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, hosted the 2017 Harrisonburg & Rockingham Bike-Walk Summit which was held on November 3. Each year the Bike-Walk Summit brings together a broad range of partners who are working to make Harrisonburg and Rockingham County a great biking and walking community to live in and visit. This year's theme was "Engaging to Create Walkable and Bikeable Communities."

Water and Sewer Utility Mapping. The CSPDC GIS Department provides water and sewer mapping services to localities upon request. This includes collecting field data by using GPS which locates known features of the system such as water valves, fire hydrants, sewer manholes, water tanks, etc. Maps produced display these features along with road centerlines and aerial imagery. During 2017, CSPDC staff updated the Town of Broadway's water and sewer maps.

BARC Solar Project. In April 2015, BARC Electric Cooperative was awarded \$500,000 in funding through the Appalachian Regional Commission for the construction of a solar generating facility at Highland Belle Elementary School, an unused surplus school. The solar facility benefits BARC customers in Rockbridge, Bath, and Highland counties by allowing them to subscribe to solar

energy for a portion of their utilities. Funds also were used to establish a Community Solar Learning Center for students/citizens to learn about solar energy through demonstrations and displays. The CSPDC provided grant administration services for the project. The project was closed out in February 2017.

Bath-Highland Broadband Authority. Together, Bath and Highland counties received funding through the Virginia Telecommunications Planning Initiative (VATPI). This joint planning effort builds on the recommendations made in the Bath-Highland Telecommunications Plan completed in 2015. During 2017, the counties of Bath and Highland and the Town of Monterey created a broadband authority, the Bath-Highland Network Authority, to facilitate access to affordable high-speed data, internet, and telecommunications services needed to foster economic development, improve educational opportunities, ensure public safety, and enhance the overall quality of life. The Articles of Incorporation were sent to the state in October. The CSPDC is providing grant management services and technical assistance for this project.

Community Focus

Shenandoah Valley Project Impact. Formerly funded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), this program is designed to help educate and prepare the region's citizens for severe weather, natural disasters and hazardous events. Businesses are provided with materials and training on continuity practices that help to minimize downtime of operations as the result of a disaster and help preserve local economies. The CSPDC has prepared and will distribute a 2018 Central Shenandoah Regional Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness Calendar. The purpose of the calendar is to further public awareness of disaster mitigation and preparedness methods and activities which will lessen the risk to public safety, decrease damage to homes and property, and reduce economic loss to Valley communities.

Resilient Neighbors Network. In July 2012, the CSPDC was asked to join the Resilient Neighbors Network (RNN) as one of its 10 pilot communities across the United States. The RNN was developed by the Natural Hazards Mitigation Association (NHMA) in conjunction with the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA) as a grassroots peer-to-peer community program designed to help communities expand local hazard mitigation programs and increase community resilience to natural hazards. CSPDC staff as part of the RNN, is assisting with the development of the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) curriculum that has been and will be given through a series of webinars to local communities and interested stakeholders throughout the U.S. In particular, CSPDC staff assisted in the development of a module of the curriculum that focuses on how local communities can engage their whole community in hazard mitigation. In April and October 2017, CSPDC staff representing the RNN presented workshops from the DRR curriculum. The RNN members, including the CSPDC, also participate in monthly conference calls with the purpose of serving as resources for each other as well as assisting other communities across the U.S. in furthering community resilience and reducing communities' vulnerabilities to severe weather and disasters.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT is a 17.5-hour course taught over a 7-week period that teaches the average citizen basic skills in disaster preparedness, fire safety, first aid and terrorism awareness. The goal of CERT is to give citizens the training and tools to protect their families, neighbors, and communities in an event of a disaster when emergency resources are stretched and in short supply. In the Spring and Fall of 2017, two Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) courses were held. This year marked the completion of 35 CERT trainings in the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro area since 2003. During that time, 548 citizens have taken CERT training. The CSPDC coordinates the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro CERT program.

Greenhouse Village Mixed Income Housing. Rockbridge County partnered with Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity to address an urgent need for workforce housing. The project includes the construction of 8 homes for low and moderate-income families. It also uses HOME First Time Homebuyer Program funds administered by the CSPDC to reduce homeownership costs to LMI homebuyers. The CSPDC provides grant management and administration services for the project. The initial 8-home project is nearing completion. The CSPDC assisted the County in submitting a CDBG application in March 2017 for Phase 2 of the project to add another 12 homes. The County was awarded \$476,693 for Phase 2.

First Time Homebuyer Program. The CSPDC administers a regional homeownership program that provides low interest mortgage financing, down payment, and closing cost assistance to qualified first-time homebuyers. To date in 2017, the program has assisted ten households. Since its beginning a decade ago, the program has served more than 245 households in the region. This program is one effort that addresses workforce affordable housing within the region.

Housing Summit. The CSPDC and the Bath County Economic Development Authority hosted a Regional Housing Summit in May. Held in Bath County, the workshop focused on the connection between housing and economic development as well as funding opportunities to increase affordable housing options through homeownership, rental housing, housing rehabilitation, and new construction. Presentations were made by the Virginia Center for Housing Research at Virginia Tech, USDA Rural Development, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Virginia Housing Development Authority, Total Action for Progress, and the CSPDC. Thirty-five people attended the event.

EVALUATION OF YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

The Economic Development Project List reflects the major projects and programs within the region that are supportive of the Key Regional Strategic Initiatives. The list provides a brief project description, project status, funding levels and comments.

The project status indicators provide insight as to the progress a project or program is making during the year. Often, projects may be listed for multiple years given the time-lag in seeing a project or program evolve from a concept to completion.

- Planning refers to the ongoing development of a project or program. This may include, but not be limited to holding project meetings, studies including feasibility studies, engineering or architectural reports, completion of required forms, permits and processes or any other activity indicating active pursuit of the project or program.
- Funded refers to the resources necessary to bring a project to fruition. The formal request for funding from Federal and State agencies is often a two-step process which begins with a pre-application. If the project is viewed favorable, the sponsoring agency is invited to submit a full application. A project is considered funded following award notification when grant agreements are completed, and local funding has been allocated.
- In-Progress refers to a project that has been funded and is in various stages of implementation.
- Completed refers to a project that has been completed, construction has been finished and the project is viable and is in working, usable order.

The Project List is evaluated annually for its regional significance and status. Completed projects will be removed from the list during the annual updates and new projects and programs will be added.

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Staunton	1, 20	The Villages - conversion of former Western State Hospital into a mixed use urban village	Environmental, Community	\$100 million	City		X	X		15-20 year project with first phase complete; increased housing options and business opportunities
Staunton	6, 18	Staunton Gateway - redevelopment of the Staunton Crossing site for commercial uses and improvements to the I-81/U.S. 250 (Richmond Road) interchange, U.S. 250 corridor and intersection with Frontier Drive	Economic Development		City, Private, VDOT		X	X		Redevelopment of 278 acres at the intersection of I-81 and U.S. 250, capacity improvements for the corridor, interchange and intersections.
Staunton	15	Richmond Avenue Road Diet	Infrastructure	\$2.5 million	VDOT, City	X	X			Richmond Avenue road diet from Greenville Avenue to east of The Villages. Reduce lanes from 4 to 2, add bike/ped facilities, and landscaping enhancements
Staunton	15	Richmond Avenue/Statler Boulevard Intersection Improvements	Infrastructure	\$573,000	VDOT, City	X	X			Operational and safety improvements
Staunton	15	Crossing Way Street Extension	Infrastructure	\$8.8 million	VDOT, City	X				Connect US 250 to North Frontier Drive via the Staunton Crossing Development
Staunton and surrounding area	6, 13	Staunton Creative Community Fund - start-up and expansionary loans to innovative and locally based small businesses	Inter-governmental Cooperation		HUD, IDA, City, USDA, DHCD, CDBG			X		Lending, business plans, training, technical assistance

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Augusta County	6	Mill Place Commerce Park - business and industrial park	Economic Development				X	X		Revised 2016 master/development plan shows the need for enhanced transportation infrastructure, new signage, utility corridors, and upgraded sewer infrastructure to attract new and expanded businesses
Augusta County	1, 7	Afton Mt. Redevelopment - master plan for the redevelopment of the Rockfish Gap-Afton Mountain property	Environmental, Economic Development			X				Future activities: construction of new tourism center, travel-related business, transportation and utility improvements; portions of project continued by property owner
Augusta County	5, 9	Mary Baldwin University - Murphy Deming School of Health Science - development of a 30 acre live, learn, and work campus	Economic Development	\$20 million	RD, Private	X				Programs targeted to meet the needs of future health care. Future phases anticipated.
Augusta County	15	VA Route 613/262 Intersection Improvements	Infrastructure	\$49 million	VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Construction of a grade separated interchange at SR 262 and Spring Hill Road (Route 613)
Augusta County	15	I-81 Exit 220 and 221 Improvements	Infrastructure	\$8.5 million	VDOT, FHWA	X				Extension of acceleration lanes to improve safety at interstate interchange
Augusta County	15	I-81 Exit 222 Improvements	Infrastructure	\$3.8 million	VDOT, FHWA	X				Extension of acceleration lanes to improve safety at interstate interchange

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Augusta County	15	I-81 Exit 213 Improvements	Infrastructure	\$2.7 million	VDOT, FHWA			X		Extended north and southbound acceleration lanes and relocated crossovers
Augusta County	15	I-81 Exit 235 Ramp Improvements	Infrastructure	\$1.8 million	VDOT		X			Right turn lane improvements along Route 265 to access the I-81 Exit 235 on-ramps
Augusta County	15	Weyers Cave Road (Route 256) Improvements	Infrastructure	\$17.3 million		X				Road widening and construction of a Park & Ride lot at the interchange
Augusta County	15	Wilson Complex Roundabout	Infrastructure	\$1.7 million			X			Replace existing Woodrow Wilson Avenue/Hornet Road intersection
Augusta County	15	Mill Place Parkway Improvements	Infrastructure	\$1.8 million			X			Improvements to the intersection of Mill Place Parkway and Laurel Hill Road (Route 612); expansion of the Park & Ride lot
Augusta County	8	Blue Mountain Industrial Site - improvements to site adjacent to airport	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$75 Million	VDOT, EDA	X				Development of site adjacent to the regional airport
Augusta County	8, 18	Lifecore Drive - development of Lifecore Drive area of Fishersville	Economic Development, Infrastructure		VDOT, County, Private			X		Development of 350 acres in a growth area; residential and commercial activity

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Augusta County	8, 16	Augusta County Broadband Initiative	Economic Development, Infrastructure		DHCD, County, Private	X				Implementation of the County's 2016 Broadband Telecommunications Strategic Plan to build last mile and middle mile fiber connections
Augusta County	8, 17	Lyndhurst Sewer Project	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$7.4 million	DHCD, EDA, County, Private	X				Install public sewer in the Lyndhurst Industrial Park to enable expansion of existing businesses and recruitment of new businesses, especially manufacturing businesses
Augusta County	10, 15, 18	Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center - secondary entrance to WWRC and County school complex	Economic Development, Infrastructure, Community		County, VDOT	X				Alternative/secondary connection to WWRC Complex; operational improvements on Woodrow Wilson Ave and at the intersection of Woodrow Wilson Ave/Lifecore Dr; access management on US 250 between Idlewood Blvd and Barren Ridge Rd
Augusta County & Rockingham County	15	I-81 Truck Climbing Lanes - improvements at Exit 235	Infrastructure	\$54.2 million	VDOT	X				Added north and southbound truck climbing lanes and associated improvements at Exit 235
Augusta County & Waynesboro	7, 13, 15	Blue Ridge (Crozet) Tunnel - reconstruction of historic tunnel	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$3.5 million	VDOT, VDOF, DHCD, Private, Nelson County, City	X	X	X		Development of trail system through historic rail tunnel under Afton Mountain
Waynesboro	7, 15	South River Trail Greenway Project, Phase 2B	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$930,000	VDOT, City		X	X		Bike trail and walkway

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Waynesboro	7, 15	South River Trail Greenway Project, Phase 3	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$1 million	VDOT, City	X	X			Bike trail and walkway
Waynesboro	1, 7, 18	Sunset Park	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$55,000	City	X				Outdoor adventure parks with hiking and mountain bike trails and scenic overlook of City and beyond
Waynesboro	8	Waynesboro Place - mixed use development	Economic Development					X		Residential and commercial activity
Waynesboro	1, 8	Mill at South River - redevelopment of a former riverfront industrial complex	Environmental, Economic Development			X				The project is expected to include a variety of tenants i.e. Cold Water Restoration Project, offices, art studios, light industry, residential,
Waynesboro	15	Southern Corridor - development of a road running parallel to I-64 to connect major industrial areas	Infrastructure	\$16 million	City, VDOT	X	X	X		Provide alternative transportation route; alleviate traffic issues on Route 340
Waynesboro	15	Lew DeWitt Boulevard-Rosser Avenue Connector - development of a new road linking commercial and residential areas	Infrastructure	\$11.9 million	City, VDOT	X				Alleviate traffic issues at I-64's Exit 94 and Lew DeWitt/Rosser intersection. Provide alternative transportation facilities.
Waynesboro	1, 6, 8	Former Mohawk Facility - development of a multi-tenant redevelopment project	Environmental, Economic Development		City, Private			X		The project is expected to house a number of businesses from distribution to manufacturing.

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Waynesboro	6, 8, 15	Nature's Crossing Technology Center (Exit 96) - development of 170 acre industrial park	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$7.5 million	City			X		Development of a new industrial park within City limits. Expected to house multiple businesses and provide mid-size rail served sites.
Waynesboro	6, 7, 8	Waynesboro Downtown Revitalization Project - comprehensive restructuring of the city's downtown business district	Economic Development		DHCD, VDOT, City, Private			X		Initiatives include major facade renovations, marketing, vacant property study, tourism destination facility study and placement, and underutilized property revitalization
Waynesboro	6	Revolving Loan Program - low interest loan program for capital offered to new and expanding small businesses	Economic Development	\$109,950	RD, Local EDA		X	X		Application awarded by USDA Rural Development to establish a revolving loan program
Waynesboro	8, 17, 18	Waynesboro Business and Industry Park at Town Center (Exit 94) - development of 111 acre industrial park	Economic Development, Infrastructure, Community	\$2 million	EDA, City, private	X				Development of remaining 36 acres (out of 111) with one or more access roads, including continuation of Shenandoah Village Drive
Waynesboro	15	Waynesboro Town Center Park & Ride Lot	Infrastructure	\$2.2 million	VDOT	X	X			Improvements to Park & Ride lot
Waynesboro	7	Development of a Museum/Interpretative-Educational Center	Economic Development	\$10 million	EDA, City, Museum Partners, State	X				Initial planning to determine feasibility/scope of project to construct center. Seeking state funding.

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Waynesboro	7	Tourist Information Center - evaluate long term strategy for location(s) within City and neighboring area	Economic Development		EDA, City	X				Initial planning and strategy to determine location(s) for long term Tourist Information Center
Waynesboro	15	Main Street Bridge Replacement - removal and demolition of the current bridge and McElroy Street construction of new bridge and new road	Infrastructure		VDOT, City		X	X		Bridge safety improvements, road relocation. To be completed late 2017.
Waynesboro	7	Blue Ridge Parkway/Skyline Drive Gateway Study Implementation - recommended improvements for the East Route 250 corridor connecting Blue Ridge	Economic Development			X				Land use, economic development, tourism, and signage recommendations for the corridor
Waynesboro	7	Entrance Corridor Study/Guidelines - develop goals/strategies and guidelines for entrance corridors in the City	Economic Development		City			X		Land use, landscaping, signage, site design, and architectural study and guidelines for the entrance corridors
Waynesboro	6, 8, 10	Grow Waynesboro Program - business start up program	Economic Development		EDA, City, Private, Grants	X				Continuing to develop future funding and programs; 2017 business start up competition completed, another planned for spring 2018
Waynesboro	6, 8, 10	Grow Waynesboro Facility - entrepreneurial/business start up facility	Economic Development		EDA, City, Private, Grants				X	Development of incubator or similar physical location for entrepreneurs to work
Waynesboro	4, 6	Incentive Zones	Economic Development		EDA, City	X				Feasibility study to create special incentive zones within City such as, but not limited to, a Technology Zone in the CBD

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Waynesboro	7	Waynesboro Wayfinding Signage	Economic Development		DHCD, City			X		Placement of wayfinding to guide residents and visitors to destinations. Phase 1 completed.
Waynesboro	1, 6	Ladd School Development - development of new commercial space at site of former school	Economic Development		Private, City, EDA			X		New and expanded businesses
Waynesboro	1, 6	Metal Crafters Building - rehabilitation of former manufacturing site	Economic Development	\$600,000	Private, City, EDA				X	New and expanded businesses
Waynesboro	6	Legget Building - purchased by local developer. Preliminary plans to redevelop	Environmental, Economic Development		Private	X				Preliminary feasibility study on redevelopment of historic landmark building in central business district
Waynesboro	1, 3	Water Quality Improvements at Constitution Park, Reviving our River, Revitalizing our City	Environmental	\$50,000	NFWF	X	X			30% Plans for implementing practices to reduce stormwater pollution at Constitution Park. Grant funded for the survey and 30% design.
Waynesboro	15	Windigrove - new sidewalk construction, Rosser Ave to Alston Ct	Infrastructure	\$80,000	VDOT, City	X				Phase III of a plan to improve pedestrian access throughout the Rosser/Windigrove/Lew DeWitt area
Waynesboro	15	Lucy Lane Sidewalk - new sidewalk construction, Walmart entrance to west of Dupont Credit Union	Infrastructure	\$20,000	Dupont Credit Union	X	X		X	Phase II of a plan to improve pedestrian access throughout the Rosser/Windigrove/Lew DeWitt area
Waynesboro	15	Rosser Sidewalk - new sidewalk construction, Tiffany Dr to Lucy Ln to Walmart entrance	Infrastructure	\$92,000	VDOT, City	X	X			Phase I of a plan to improve pedestrian access throughout the Rosser/Windigrove/Lew DeWitt area

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Waynesboro	15, 18	East Main Streetscape	Infrastructure, Community		City and other grant sources	X				Feasibility and construction to improve streetscape along main entrance corridor
Waynesboro	6	Center for Cold Water Restoration - development and programs to create natural resource-based economic development	Economic Development		City and other grant sources	X				Building feasibility and awareness of the potential for higher education, commercialization, innovative research, and tourism to support long term growth
Waynesboro	1, 6	Center for Cold Water Restoration - development of a demonstration site and related marketing materials	Environmental, Economic Development	\$50,000	VMS, Dominion Power, Private			X		Demonstrate awareness of the potential for prosperity by combining higher education, commercialization, and trout grow out or similar facility
Harrisonburg	8	IntraPac - manufactures pharmaceutical packaging	Economic Development	\$1.5 million				X		Expansion; 8 of 102 projected jobs created
Harrisonburg	13	Harrisonburg Revolving Loan Fund - loan pool to assist with expansions of small businesses within Harrisonburg	Economic Development	\$124,375	City, USDA			X		Lending, business plans, training, technical assistance
Harrisonburg	15	I-81 Exit 247 Bridge and Interchange Improvements	Infrastructure	\$50 million	VDOT, FHWA	X				Improvements including deck and ramp improvements
Harrisonburg	15	I-81 Exit 247 Interchange Improvements	Infrastructure	\$6.5 million	VDOT	X	X			Interchange improvements. Improved interstate and corridor operations to promote economic development in the region relative

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Harrisonburg	15	I-81 Exit 245 Interchange Reconstruction	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA		X	X		Improved interstate and corridor operations to promote economic development in the region relative to major university and medical services.
Harrisonburg	6, 7, 15, 18	South Main Street and MLK Jr. Way Improvements - Construction of turning lanes, shared use path, and signalization improvements	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$2.5 million	VDOT, City, JMU		X		X	Improved accessibility and safety of vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrians in vicinity of new conference center, hotel, and parking deck facility
Harrisonburg	15	Mt Clinton Pike Road Improvements	Infrastructure	\$9 million	VDOT	X				Reconstruction of Mt Clinton Pike from Chicago Avenue to Virginia Avenue
Harrisonburg	15	Erickson Avenue Improvements - Phase 4	Infrastructure	\$9 million	VDOT	X				Construction of Erickson Avenue from west of High Street to west of Garbers Church Road
Harrisonburg	15	MLK Jr. Way Extension	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, City	X				Construct an extension of MLK Jr. Way from East Market Street to Country Club Road
Harrisonburg	15	South Main/Port Republic Road Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, City	X				Extend the southbound left turn lanes from South Main Street onto Port Republic Road
Harrisonburg/ Rockingham County	15	U.S. Route 11 Improvements - Covenant Drive to Cecil Wampler	Infrastructure	\$40 Million	VDOT, FHWA, City/County	X				Improvements along US Route 11 including widening to four-lane roadway with median, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, access management, and intersection improvements

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Rockingham County	15	U.S. Route 33 Improvements - West of Harrisonburg	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Improvements along U.S. Route 33 including third lane
Rockingham County	15	South Valley Pike (U.S. Route 11) & Oakwood Drive (Route 704) Intersection Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Right turn and extension of left turn from U.S. Route 11 onto Oakwood Drive (Route 704).
Rockingham County	15	Cecil Wampler Road (Route 704) Improvements - realignment of intersection	Infrastructure	\$3.5 million	VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Realign intersection of Cecil Wampler Road (Route 704) to the South Valley Pike (U.S. Route 11)/Oakwood Drive intersection
Rockingham County	15	Reservoir Road Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Improvements from City line to Stone Spring Road; widen to 5-lane arterial with raised median and wide shoulders
Rockingham County	15	Peach Grove Avenue Extension	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Construct new 4-lane road with wide shoulders between Greendale-Ridgedale Road and Stone Spring Road
Rockingham County	15	Massanetta Springs Road Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Massanetta Springs Road widening from Route 33 to south of Preston Lake entrance
Rockingham County	15	Cecil Wampler Road to Friedens Church Road Connection	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				New road behind Walmart Distribution Center connecting Cecil Wampler Road and Friedens Church Road
Rockingham County	15	Mt. Clinton Pike Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Improvements on Mt. Clinton Pike from City line to Switchboard Road

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
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Rockingham County	15	Switchboard Road Improvements	Infrastructure	\$2.4 million	VDOT	X				Improvements from City line to Mt. Clinton Pike
Rockingham County	15	Friedens Church Road (Route 682) Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Intersection improvements at Friedens Church Road (Route 682) and Scholars Road
Rockingham County	15	Oakwood Drive (Route 704) Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Improvements between U.S. 11 to the Bridgewater town line
Rockingham County	15	Dinkel Avenue (Route 257) - Bridgewater line to Route 11	Infrastructure	\$3 million	VDOT	X				Widen to 4-lane rural median arterial
Rockingham County	15	Mount Crawford Avenue - east of Main Street to Bridgewater town limits	Infrastructure	\$1.4 million	VDOT	X				Upgrade roadway
Rockingham	15	South Main Street - Route 704 to I-81 Exit 243	Infrastructure	\$18.3 million	VDOT	X				Widen roadway
Rockingham County/Town of Broadway	15	Mayland Road (Route 259) Improvements	Infrastructure		VDOT, FHWA, County	X				Widen Mayland Road (Route 259) and provide multimodal facilities.
Rockingham County	4, 6	Innovation Village @ Rockingham - 365 acre research park for hi-tech and bio-tech business and industry	Economic Development	\$6 million	County			X		365 acre research and technology park

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Town of Bridgewater	15	Bridgewater Parkway	Infrastructure	\$70 million	VDOT, FHWA, Town	X				Construct a bypass for the Town of Bridgewater
Town of Dayton	15	Eberly Road - between Silver Lake Road and Route 42	Infrastructure	\$1.8 million	VDOT	X				Improve arterial between Silver Lake Road and Route 42
Dayton/ Rockingham/ Harrisonburg	15	Route 42/Route 11 Connector	Infrastructure	\$2.3 million	VDOT	X				2-land rural minor arterial connecting Eberly Road in Dayton at Route 42 to Route 11 through Covenant Drive in Harrisonburg
Town of Elkton/ Rockingham County	6, 7, 14, 18	Downtown Improvement Plan - physical improvements and economic restructuring to strengthen downtown	Economic Development		DHCD, Town	X				Physical improvements and economic restructuring
Rockbridge County	15	Raphine Exit 205/Raphine Road Improvements	Infrastructure	\$2.4 million	VDOT, County	X	X			Improvements to Exit 205 to include ramp and intersection improvements at SR 606
Rockbridge County	6, 12	Clean Energy Park - post-closure use of the Rockbridge County landfill	Economic Development				X	X		Conversion of municipal solid waste into electricity and fuel
Rockbridge County	12, 18, 20	Greenhouse Village Phase II - mixed income housing community	Economic Development, Community	\$476,693	DHCD, Habitat for Humanity, County		X	X		Address the need for affordable housing. Phase I is completed; Phase II has been awarded CDBG funding.

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
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Rockbridge County	17	Route 60 Water & Sewer Infrastructure - extension of sewer and water service	Infrastructure		County, EDA, DHCD	X				Phase I is completed and connected existing businesses to public sewer. Phase II will extend both sewer and water service
Buena Vista	7, 18	Blue Ridge Gateway Study Implementation - project implementation along the corridor connecting the Blue Ridge Parkway and	Economic Development, Community			X				Recommendations for improving the connection between the Blue Ridge Parkway and the City's CBD
Buena Vista	13	Revolving Loan Program - low interest loan program for capital offered to new and expanding small businesses in Buena Vista.	Inter-governmental Cooperation		RD			X		Seed money for existing and new small businesses; up to \$15,000 loan per business
Buena Vista	7	Facility Improvements at Glen Maury Park	Economic Development		DCR, City	X				Tourism development
Lexington	1, 7	Jordan's Point Park - on-going development of master plan to include construction of park amenities, renovation of historic buildings;	Environmental, Economic Development	\$700,000	VDOT; City; HF	X	X	X		Increased tourism revenue and additional recreational activities for community
Lexington	15	Main Street Complete Streets Corridor	Infrastructure	\$2.3 million	VDOT	X				Add bike and pedestrian elements to Route 11 Main Street
Lexington-Rockbridge	17	Maury Service Authority Water Loop	Infrastructure	\$7.5 million	RD				X	Regional project to build a new water loop around Lexington for better water supply to the City and County

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
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Lexington-Buena Vista-Rockbridge	7, 13	Rockbridge Area Wayfinding Signage - tourism and community program	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$650,000	VDOT, Rockbridge County	X	X			Placement of wayfinding to guide residents and visitors to destinations. Study of preliminary design and location of signs completed; additional funding needed for installation
Lexington-Buena Vista-Rockbridge	13	Rockbridge Area Broadband - implementation of fiber-optic cable and broadband infrastructure	Economic Development		Cities, County; NTIA, DHCD, USDA-RD	X				Expand broadband network, particularly to unserved and underserved areas
Lexington-Buena Vista-Rockbridge	1, 6, 7, 17	Natural Bridge - improvements to infrastructure, gateway and access management improvements to support transition to a state park and increased	Economic Development, Infrastructure		EDA, ARC, DHCD, County, Private	X		X		Increased tourism employment and revenue
Lexington-Buena Vista-Rockbridge	1, 6, 7, 13, 15, 18	Chessie Nature Trail - improvements to connect 7-mile bike/ped trail; part of larger Brushy Blue Greenway System	Environmental, Economic Development, Infrastructure		Cities, County, EFLAP, TA		X	X		Increased tourism revenue and additional recreational activities for community. Funding has been awarded for a portion of the trail; additional funding is needed
Lexington-Buena Vista-Rockbridge	1, 6, 7, 13, 15, 18	Braiding the Way - initiative to develop a braided network of trails, blueways, bikeways, and parks	Environmental, Economic Development, Infrastructure		NPS Technical Assistance, Cities, County	X		X		Increase tourism revenue and business development; master plan completed; project implementation funds needed
Lexington-Buena Vista-Rockbridge	7	Upper James River Water Trail - enhance outdoor recreation tourism	Economic Development		Cities, County, DCR, James River Association, VDGIF	X				Support outdoor recreation initiatives by adding access points along the river

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Highland County	1, 6, 18	The Highland Center Business Incubation	Economic Development, Community	40,000	Private, DHCD, USDA	X				Technical assistance and counseling support for food-based businesses and other business enterprises
Highland County	1, 15, 18	Community Park - development of a 6 acre site into 3 segments: Civil War gravesites (92), wetland trail and education, community garden	Environmental, Community	\$225,000	NAWCA, Private			X		Additional pedestrian infrastructure for tourism and education for the community
Highland County	1, 7, 18	State Park Development - acquisition of land for a future state park for the benefit of local and state economies and as an enhancement to the quality of life for residents and visitors to Virginia	Economic Development	\$4.5 million	Exploring funding sources now	X				Acquisition of property developed into a State Park
Highland County	6, 8, 18	Entrepreneurial Support and Resident Attraction - create a strategy to attract younger entrepreneurial talent to the area	Economic Development, Community	\$60,000		X				Continue marketing efforts to attract new entrepreneurial residents and technical support for local entrepreneurs
Highland County	1, 6, 18	Community Revitalization Plan to include renovation of the Highland Inn and marketing plan to take advantage of the new retreat/conference facility at The Highland Center	Economic Development, Community	\$2.5 million	Private, searching for leverage funds, DHCD			X		Inn re-opened and renovated; Main street businesses open more hours; plans made for other vacant buildings
Highland County	16	Cell Phone Coverage - expand coverage	Infrastructure	\$200,000		X				Increased coverage throughout the County

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Highland and Bath Counties	16	Broadband Improvement Initiative	Infrastructure			X				Expand broadband service to foster economic development, improve educational opportunities, ensure public safety, and enhance the overall quality of life
Bath County	20	Thomastown Neighborhood Improvements - housing rehabilitation	Community	\$800,000	DHCD				X	Housing rehab and neighborhood improvements to benefit 18 residences
Bath County	7, 15	Countywide Trails - for tourism and access	Economic Development, Infrastructure	\$500,000	EDA, County, USFS, DCR	X				Safe trails for exploration of county areas by foot and horseback
Bath County	6, 8	Economic Development Plan - strategy to attract and retain commercial, industrial, and agricultural employers	Economic Development		EDA, County	X				Strengthen the local and regional economy through implementation of plan recommendations
Bath County	7, 15	Airport Improvements - improvements to enable commercial carriers to schedule flights	Infrastructure	\$5 million	FAA, County, Airport Authority, US Military	X				Scheduled air service to improve access for tourism
Bath County	7	Cultural/Visitor Center - provide a tourism attraction	Economic Development	\$1 million	County, EDA	X	X			Signature visitor center to provide arts, cultural and historical exhibits in addition to tourism information, referrals and services

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Bath County	15	Industrial Park Rail Siding - train access to industrial sites	Infrastructure	\$1 million	County, EDA	X				Improved supply lines and goods to market
Bath County	15	Rail Passenger Service - for tourists and residents	Infrastructure	\$1 million	County, EDA	X				Amtrak stop in Millboro
Bath County	17	Water Treatment Facility Upgrade	Infrastructure			X				Improve water treatment system and distribution
Bath County	17	Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade	Infrastructure			X				Improve treatment and collection system
Bath County	7, 18	Hot Springs/Warm Springs Corridor Initiative	Economic Development, Community	\$250,000		X				Streetscape improvements, enhanced beautification, trails
Bath County	3, 17	Millboro Springs Water Supply Planning	Environmental, Infrastructure			X				Adequate water supply to serve Millboro Springs

Central Shenandoah CEDS: 2017-2018 Economic Development Project List						Project Status				
Area	Strategic Initiative Number	Project Name and Description	Focus Area	Funding Amount	Funding Sources	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	End Products/Deliverables
Region-wide	15	Harrisonburg-Staunton-Waynesboro-Charlottesville Commuter/Intercity Bus Service	Economic Development, Infrastructure, Community		DRPT, FTA, local partners	X				Daily express bus service between Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Charlottesville; connecting to Greyhound and Amtrak in Charlottesville; study completed, next steps under consideration
Region-wide	7	Bike the Valley - tourism program	Infrastructure		VTC		X	X		Expansion of program into new tourism markets
Region-wide	15	Rideshare - incentive program to encourage commuters to carpool in order to reduce traffic congestion and travel expenses	Infrastructure	\$47,500	DRPT		X	X		Reduced travel costs, energy consumption, and emissions
Region-wide	7	Tour de Farm - bike-to-farm program	Economic Development, Community		VTC, CSPDC, local partners, private	X				Increase tourism revenue; creation of a program that combines the Bike the Valley and Fields of Gold programs
Region-wide	7, 11, 18	Fields of Gold Agritourism Program - develop strategies to implement a regional agritourism program	Economic Development, Community		Local Government, USDA, RD, VDACS, DHCD, VTC		X	X		Expand jobs on and off the farm, increased tourism expenditures
Region-wide	7, 15	Shenandoah Valley Bike Route - super-regional bike route extending from Lexington to Winchester	Economic Development, Infrastructure, Community		VDOT	X				Expand transportation system and attract a unique brand of tourist to the region. CSPDC and NSVRC with VDOT will develop a central bike route and associated cycle tourism

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Region-wide	7, 18	Regional Artisan Center	Economic Development, Community		DHCD, Private	X				Creation of a regional artisan center for the purpose of showcasing and selling artisan products from the Shenandoah Valley region and stimulating the
Region-wide	7, 11, 18	Shenandoah Beerwerks Trail	Economic Development, Community		GART, Harrisonburg Tourism, Lexington & the Rockbridge Area Tourism	X	X	X		Further development of trail and marketing campaign to attract a target market to the area. Deepening the tourism experience by connecting outdoor recreation and festivals with breweries.
Region-wide	1 - 21	GO Virginia - collaboration of business, education, and government to grow the regional economy	Economic Development, inter-Governmental Cooperation &		State	X	X			Foster regional private-sector growth and job creation
Region-wide	1 - 14	SVP Economic Development Marketing - private/public economic development implementation and marketing organization	Economic Development		SVP, Private		X	X		Economic development marketing to create jobs and investment for the Shenandoah Valley region
Region-wide	1 - 21	CSPDC Economic Development Planning - planning agency providing planning and technical assistance to 21 local governments	Economic Development	\$140,000	EDA, Local		X	X		Economic development planning for the region; job creation and retention

ARC Appalachian Regional Commission
CDBG Community Development Block Grant
DBA Department of Business Assistance
DHCD Department of Housing and Community Development
EDA Economic Development Administration
EZ Enterprise Zone

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency
GOF Governor's Opportunity Fund
HF Historic Foundation
HTC Historic Tax Credits
HUD Department of Housing and Urban Development
IDA Industrial Development Authority

JMU James Madison University
NMTC New Market Tax Credit
RD Rural Development
SVP Shenandoah Valley Partnership
VDEM Virginia Department of Emergency Management
VDH Virginia Department of Health

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation
VHDA Virginia Housing Development Authority
VIP Virginia Investment Program
VJIP Virginia Job Investment Program
VTC Virginia Tourism Corporation



Minutes
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Meeting
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401
February 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Member Jurisdiction Representatives				
	Augusta County		City of Staunton	Staff
✓	Terry Kelley	✓	Carolyn Dull	✓ Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director
✓	Marshall Pattie, Treasurer	✓	Sharon Angle	✓ Rebecca Joyce, Senior Planner/Program Manager
✓	Vickie Moran		Rockbridge County	✓ Elizabeth McCarty, Director of Planning
✓	Leslie Tate	✓	A. W. Buster Lewis	✓ Ann Cundy, Transportation Program Manager
	Bath County	✓	Chris Slaydon	✓ Nancy Gourley, Transit Manager
✓	Edward Hicklin		Rockingham County	✓ Devon Thompson, Transit Coordinator
	City of Buena Vista		Ned Overton	✓ Scott Philips, Transportation Planner
✓	Tim Petrie		William Kyger	✓ Hunter Joseph, GIS Specialist/Planning Assistant
	City of Harrisonburg	✓	Casey Armstrong, Secretary	✓ Jonathan Howard, Transportation Planner
✓	Ted Byrd	✓	Kim Sandum	✓ Liza Vick, Regional planner
✓	George Hirschmann		City of Waynesboro	✓ Tracey Coltrain, FOG Agritourism Coordinator
✓	Adam Fletcher	✓	Jeff Freeman	✓ Tracy Hibbits, Regional Planner
	Highland County		Rusty Johnson	✓ Cindi Johnson, Fiscal Officer
✓	Kevin Wagner, Vice Chair			✓ Rita Whitfield, Office Manager
	City of Lexington			✓ Kimberly Miller, Administrative Assistant
✓	Frank Friedman, Chairman			Others
				✓ Lib Rood, KFH Group

Call to Order

The February 6, 2017, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Frank Friedman.

Public Comment

Chairman Friedman opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no public comments.

Minutes

There being no corrections or additions, Chairman Friedman declared the minutes of the December 5, 2016, meeting approved as presented.

Chairperson's Report

Under Chairperson's Report, Chairman Friedman presented a plaque to Mr. Rick Chandler, Rockingham County representative, for his outstanding leadership and notable service to the Planning District Commission and to the people of the District, shown during his term as Commissioner. He announced the following new Commissioners: Mr. George Hirschmann for the City of Harrisonburg; Ms. Vickie Moran, Augusta County; and Mr. William Kyger, Rockingham County.

Executive Director's Report

Under Executive Director's Report, Ms. Bonnie Riedesel introduced and welcomed new staff members Ms. Liza Vick, Regional Planner; Ms. Tracy Hibbitts, Regional Planner; and Mr. Jonathan Howard, Transportation Planner. She announced that Ms. Devon Thompson was promoted to Transit Coordinator.

Treasurer's Report

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration the Treasurer's Report (attached to file minutes). Dr. Marshall Pattie gave a report on the December 31, 2016, Financial Statement. He reported on the Department of Rail and Public Transportation three-year audit, pension plan transfer, and the FY18 budget process. Mr. Kevin Wagner moved, seconded by Mr. Terry Kelley, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Contract for Transit Services (BAF #17-2)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration Contract for Transit Services. Ms. Gourley gave a report on the contract for a transit provider, noting that during the Triennial Review conducted by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), CSPDC staff was directed to enter into a month-to-month interim contract with Virginia Regional Transit (VRT) to provide the BRITE transit service, and to complete an open and competitive procurement for a transit service provider. The interim contract with VRT will expire on June 30, 2017. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for a transit provider for a minimum five-year contract was developed and released on December 6, 2016. Three proposals were received. A Proposal Analysis Group (PAG), comprised of a member of the Commission, a member of the Transit Advisory Committee, and CSPDC staff, reviewed and scored the proposals based on the published evaluation criteria. All three firms were shortlisted to participate in a face-to-face interview, to occur at the end of February. This five-year contract is projected to be approximately \$7.5 million dollars, funded with a combination of FTA, DRPT, the three local jurisdictions, and private transit partner funds. Ms. Carolyn Dull moved, seconded by Mr. Buster Lewis, to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a five-year contract for a transit provider to deliver the BRITE transit services beginning on July 1, 2017.

Upon a question by Mr. Ted Byrd as to whether there was a memorandum of understanding regarding transit funding and services between the CSPDC and the City of Staunton, Augusta County, and the City of Waynesboro, Ms. Riedesel responded the Staunton-Augusta-

Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (the “SAWMPO”) passed a resolution designating the CSPDC as the recipient and administrator of Section 5307 transit funds for the region, and representatives from the City of Staunton, Augusta County, and the City of Waynesboro serve on the SAWMPO.

Mr. Byrd ask if this would commit the CSPDC to being the transit provider for the next five years. Ms. Riedesel responded that she would prefer to check with the attorneys to see if the contract can be transferred from one entity to another in mid-stream. Chairman Friedman stated that from his perspective the PDC is agreeing to represent the three jurisdictions and to serve as a conduit, which very much fits in with the planning and execution for a variety of other things the Commission does. Mr. Byrd expressed concern that the Commission was taking on a rather large asset that must be used for 40 years for transit services. Ms. Dull pointed out that if the localities decided to terminate their support of these transit services, the CSPDC could simply relinquish the building to the state and federal governments and have no further obligation. Ms. Riedesel and Kevin Wagner agreed that a clause should be included in the contract that would give the CSPDC the right to assign CSPDC’s rights and obligations under the contract to another entity if, during the term of the contract, another entity becomes the recipient of the federal transit funding. Ms. Riedesel pointed out that approximately 80% of the funding for the project comes from the federal government through FTA, 16% from the state through DRPT, with the remaining 4% coming from local jurisdictions and other local entities, like Blue Ridge Community College, Augusta Health, and Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center (WWRC).

Mr. Byrd stated that his concern about risk would be addressed by the inclusion of an assignability clause as suggested. However, he still has concerns as to whether administering a grant-funded transit program is within the CSPDC’s mission. Mr. Buster Lewis responded that the Commission’s Executive Committee has studied the issue of the CSPDC managing the public transit program extensively, and shared these concerns, but had concluded that the Commission needed to step up to the plate to provide these services when there were no other available options. Ms. Riedesel stated that the funders at the state and federal level have been impressed with the good job Commission staff has exhibited in providing transit services in the region. Ms. Dull expressed her view that administering the contract, as opposed to directly operating a transit system, was in line with the CSPDC’s mission and goals.

The Chairman called for the question. On a voice vote, the motion to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a five-year contract for a transit provider to deliver the BRITE transit services carried, with four opposing.

Update on Transit Facility (Board Memo #17-1)

Chairman Friedman presented Update on the Transit Facility. Ms. Riedesel gave an update on the transit facility, noting that the CSPDC has been the designated recipient of the FTA and Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) funding since January 2014. It is FTA’s position that the control and ownership of the transit facility located in Fishersville, currently owned by the current contracted service provider, Virginia Regional Transit (VRT), should be owned and controlled by the public entity who administers the transit program. FTA and DRPT staff have worked with VRT to initiate the process of transferring ownership of the facility to the

CSPDC. To that end, the Attorney General's office has developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DRPT and VRT that spells out the details and conditions of the transfer. Ms. Riedesel stated that in December, at the direction of DRPT, CSPDC staff had prepared a grant application for funds for all activities related to the transfer of the facility including compensating VRT for their initial investment in the development of the facility, all legal and transactional costs related to the transfer of the facility, and the preparation of a Phase I environmental and facility condition report. She noted that there will be no out of pocket costs to the CSPDC or VRT for the purchase of the facility, and the maintenance and operating costs of the building are grant-eligible.

Upon a question regarding the value of the facility, Ms. Gourley stated that the facility was appraised at \$4.2 million. The question was raised as to whether taking ownership of the building would obligate the CSPDC to anything. Ms. Riedesel explained that the building must be used for the next 36 years to provide transit services. However, if the CSPDC decided to withdraw from this activity, it could simply relinquish ownership of the building which would revert to the FTA. There was discussion regarding the current tenants of the upstairs of the building. Ms. Riedesel noted that the rental revenue must go back into transit. She added that the Commission may consider hiring a property management company to oversee the property, with those costs covered by the transit grants. Mr. Tim Petrie raised the question of whether the Commission should engage in an activity that only benefited Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County. Mr. Pattie noted that localities get differing benefits from the Commission, depending on their size and needs. Ms. Riedesel added that the CSPDC has a dedicated, grant-funded transit staff designated to work on this. Mr. Wagner noted that there is an ultimate goal of having a separate transit authority organized at some point in the future, but that it had been necessary for the CSPDC to step up to take on this role in the interim so that the transit services could continue.

Update on GO Virginia

Chairman Friedman presented Update on GO Virginia. Ms. Elizabeth McCarty gave an update on GO Virginia and presented the Go Virginia Regional Boundaries map. She reported on the GO Virginia Valley Working Group, which is comprised of the Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP), the two applicable Planning District Commissions, and the workforce development board that represents our GO Virginia region. Ms. McCarty noted that the State GO Virginia Board is comprised of 24 members and there are nine GO Virginia regions in the state, with the CSPDC being Region 8. Ms. Riedesel stated that GO Virginia Region 8 is seeking nominations for its Regional Council and an online survey nomination form was created. She noted that the deadline to nominate individuals is February 12th. She stated that the GO Virginia Regional Council will be a newly formed public body certified by the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board to receive grants that incentivize regional collaboration to diversify the economy and create high paying jobs in the region. The Regional Council will include individuals from a variety of sectors; business, education, government, civic or community leaders, economic and workforce development professionals, local government officials, regional planning entities and nonprofits. Ms. Riedesel stated that the Regional Council will have 15-25 members, with the majority of the membership representing the private sector. She reviewed the GO Virginia funding for FY 2018-2019. Ms. Riedesel noted that the Letters of Intent (LOI) to form a Regional Council are due February 17th and will allow the State GO Virginia Board to certify regional councils at their

March meeting. This LOI will describe the membership and composition of the Regional Council and the selection process. Dr. Marshall Pattie moved, seconded by Ms. Carolyn Dull, to endorse the CSPDC moving forward with forming a Regional Council in the region by accepting the nominations and submitting the Letter of Intent due on February 17th to the state agency. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Update on Smart Scale Transportation Grant Applications

Chairman Friedman presented Update on Smart Scale Transportation Grant Applications. Ms. Ann Cundy gave an update on the FY18 Smart Scale program. She reviewed the Smart Scale project list for the CSPDC region, as well as available funding and requests statewide and locally. Ms. Cundy reviewed the next steps, noting that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) considers public comments regarding the draft SYIP, ultimately approving the final SYIP for implementation in June. She stated that once a project has been screened, scored, and selected for funding by the CTB, it will remain in the Virginia Department of Transportation Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) as a funding priority.

Inter-Regional Transit Study Presentation

Chairman Friedman presented the Inter-Regional Transit Feasibility Study Presentation. Ms. Riedesel gave an introduction of the background and need to study the feasibility of implementing public transit service in the Interstate 81 and 64 corridors connecting Charlottesville, Waynesboro, Staunton, and Harrisonburg. Ms. Riedesel stated that DRPT recognized the need and importance of this planning effort, and was instrumental in selecting the KFH Group who is one of their on-call consultants familiar with the study area. She introduced and welcomed Ms. Lib Rood, Senior Transportation Planner for the KFH Group, who was present to present the key components of the Study. Ms. Rood presented and distributed copies of a PowerPoint presentation on the I-81/I-64 Inter-Regional Public Transportation Study (attached to file minutes). She reviewed the study scope and challenges, needs and opportunities. Ms. Rood reviewed the highlights of the commuter survey that was conducted in April 2016, noting that 609 responses were received. She reviewed the commuting patterns, projected demand, service alternatives considered, operating costs, and the next steps.

Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs) (BAF #17-1)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs). Mr. Ted Byrd moved, seconded by Mr. Buster Lewis, to endorse the staff recommendations. Motion carried unanimously. They are as follows:

- A. Applications submitted by the following for FTA Section 5310 Program to Purchase Transportation Equipment:
 - The Arc of Harrisonburg and Rockingham is seeking capital assistance in the amount of \$66,000, to purchase a 9-passenger van with a wheelchair ramp.

- Pleasant View, Inc. is seeking capital assistance in the amount of \$105,000 to purchase one modified mini-van with a wheelchair ramp and one 15-passenger body on chassis vehicle with wheelchair lift.
- Rockbridge Area Transportation System, Inc. (RATS) is seeking capital assistance in the amount of \$60,462 to purchase one 9-passenger van with wheelchair lift.
- Valley Program for Aging Services (VPAS) is seeking capital assistance in the amount of \$65,000 to purchase one 14-passenger body on chassis vehicle with wheelchair lift.

Staff recommended endorsement for all four FTA Section 5310 program applications.

- B. An application submitted by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for FY17 319(h) Non-Point Source Implementation Grant for a total funding of \$5,098,333.00. Section 319(h) of the Federal Clean Water Act requires that states develop and implement nonpoint source pollution management programs. Staff recommends endorsement.
- C. An application submitted by the Town of Elkton for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade project. The Town of Elkton owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant and is seeking assistance through Rural Development to upgrade the plant. Proposed upgrades to the Plant will be constructed adjacent to existing equipment and tanks. Staff recommends endorsement.
- D. An application submitted by the CSPDC for FTA Section 5317 New Freedom Grant Program. The CSPDC is seeking assistance from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation to establish a regional mobility management program for a total funding of \$30,000. The program will serve the communities of the Central Shenandoah Region. Funds will be used to develop a regional mobility management program and assign the necessary staff to implement the grant. Staff recommends endorsement.

Other Business

Under Other Business, Ms. Carolyn Dull announced that she attended the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board meetings for Chief Elected Officials. She stated that the meetings were poorly attended and encouraged everyone to go back to their chief elected officials and encourage them to attend.

Also under Other Business, Mr. Adam Fletcher announced that the City of Harrisonburg is currently in the process of updating their comprehensive plan and gave a review on the process. He encouraged those interested to check out the City of Harrisonburg's website for updated information on the plan.

Adjournment

Chairman Friedman announced that the next CSPDC meeting will be held on April 17, 2017. There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita F. Whitfield
Clerk to the Commission

Approved:

Casey Armstrong
CSPDC Secretary



Minutes
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Meeting
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401
April 17, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Member Jurisdiction Representatives				
	Augusta County		City of Staunton	Staff
	Terry Kelley	✓	Carolyn Dull	✓ Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director
✓	Marshall Pattie, Treasurer	✓	Sharon Angle	✓ Rebecca Joyce, Senior Planner/Program Manager
✓	Vickie Moran		Rockbridge County	✓ Elizabeth McCarty, Director of Planning
✓	Leslie Tate		A. W. Buster Lewis	✓ Ann Cundy, Transportation Program Manager
	Bath County	✓	Chris Slaydon	✓ Nancy Gourley, Transit Manager
	Edward Hicklin		Rockingham County	✓ Devon Thompson, Transit Coordinator
	City of Buena Vista	✓	Ned Overton	✓ Scott Philips, Transportation Planner
	Tim Petrie		William Kyger	✓ Hunter Joseph, GIS Specialist/Planning Assistant
	City of Harrisonburg	✓	Casey Armstrong, Secretary	✓ Jonathan Howard, Transportation Planner
✓	Ted Byrd		Kim Sandum	✓ Liza Vick, Regional planner
✓	George Hirschmann		City of Waynesboro	✓ Tracy Hibbitts, Regional Planner
	Adam Fletcher	✓	Jeff Freeman	✓ Cindi Johnson, Fiscal Officer
	Highland County		Rusty Johnson	✓ Rita Whitfield, Office Manager
	Kevin Wagner, Vice Chair			✓ Kimberly Miller, Administrative Assistant
	City of Lexington			OTHERS
✓	Frank Friedman, Chairman			✓ Jordan Bowman, Litten & Sipe

Call to Order

The April 17, 2017, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Frank Friedman.

Public Comment

Chairman Friedman opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no public comments.

Minutes

There being no corrections or additions, Chairman Friedman declared the minutes of the February 6, 2017, meeting approved as presented.

Executive Director's Report

Under Executive Director's Report, Ms. Bonnie Riedesel reported on the following:

- Announced that Tracey Coltrain has resigned as the Fields of Gold Agritourism Coordinator for the CSPDC. She stated that Ms. Coltrain will continue to provide marketing services remotely to the CSPDC on a contracted basis.
- Announced that the CSPDC is hosting a Water & Sewer Infrastructure Financing Workshop on May 4, 2017, at the Virginia Regional Transit Facility in Fishersville. The Workshop is to equip participants with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions about financing their water and sewer projects.
- Announced that the CSPDC is hosting a Housing Summit Workshop on May 25, 2017, at the Hot Springs Fire and Rescue in Hot Springs to explore affordable housing solutions.
- Reported that one of the main services the CSPDC provides to the individual localities and the region is grant writing. She stated that in the last two months alone, staff has applied for or made annual allocation requests for 11 grants totaling \$3.6 million in grant funds.

Treasurer's Report

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration the Treasurer's Report (attached to file minutes). Ms. Cindi Johnson gave a report on the February 28, 2017, Financial Statement. Mr. Ted Byrd moved, seconded by Mr. Casey Armstrong, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

GO Virginia Update

Chairman Friedman presented Update on GO Virginia. Ms. Riedesel noted that there are nine GO Virginia regions in the state. GO Virginia Region #8 is comprised of four regional entities: the CSPDC, Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, Shenandoah Valley Partnership, and the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board. Ms. Riedesel presented the GO Virginia Regional Boundaries Maps, noting that the GO Virginia Region #8 includes 10 counties, 6 cities, and 16 towns, with a total population of 526,741. She noted that on February 17th, the four regional entities submitted a letter of intent to the state to form a Regional Council in which 28 members were nominated. The State GO Virginia Board approved the Regional Council and certified the GO Virginia region on March 14th. Ms. Riedesel stated that the Regional Council held its first organizational meeting on April 3rd and the next meeting is scheduled for May 23rd. She noted that she will be attending a statewide orientation meeting in Richmond for all GO Virginia Regional Council members on April 20th. She also noted that Mr. Frank Friedman was appointed to the GO Virginia Regional Council representing local governments in the CSPDC region.

Consideration of FY18 Rural Transportation Work Program (BAF #17-3)

Chairman Friedman presented the FY18 Rural Transportation Work Program. Ms. Ann Cundy gave a brief review on the program, noting that this program supports regional planning efforts, small area and corridor studies, assistance with comprehensive plan updates, grant application and administration assistance to the localities in the rural areas of the region. She noted that annually VDOT provides \$58,000, matched with \$14,500 in local funds. Ms. Cundy noted that the grant application was submitted earlier to meet the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) grant deadline of April 14th noting the Commission's meeting date for approval of Resolution. Mr. Ted Byrd moved, seconded by Dr. Marshall Pattie, to approve the Resolution authorizing application for the FY18 Rural Transportation Planning Assistance Program grant. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Ms. Cundy announced that Mr. Dixon Whitworth, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) member, will be attending the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO) Policy Board meeting on May 3rd. Following the SAWMPO meeting, Mr. Whitworth, along with staff, will travel to Rockbridge County and the cities of Buena Vista and Lexington to visit several project sites and to meet with local officials and staff. Ms. Cundy also announced that the CTB will host a Spring Six-Year Improvement Plan (SYIP) public meeting on April 27th, at Blue Ridge Community College, at 5:30 p.m.

Consideration of 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Regional Priorities (BAF #17-5)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration the 2017 CDBG Regional Priorities (attached to file minutes). Ms. Riedesel stated that each year, the CSPDC is requested to prepare a list of CDBG regional priorities for submission to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. These priorities set the stage for the Region's communities to access CDBG funds should they decide to submit applications during the program year and provide bonus points during the selection process. Ms. Riedesel noted that CSPDC staff has coordinated with the localities and has prepared the attached list for the Board's consideration and approval. She stated the submission deadline for the priority list was March 24, 2017. Given time constraints, the list was submitted on February 23, 2017. Dr. Marshall Pattie moved, seconded by Mr. George Hirschmann, to ratify the Executive Director's endorsement letter for the 2017 CDBG Regional Priorities. Motion carried unanimously.

Transit Update (Board Memo #17-2)

Chairman Friedman presented Transit Update. Ms. Gourley gave an update on the transit services. She reported on the process undertaken to review and score the three proposals received for operations of the BRITE transit services, noting that on March 15th, a five-year contract was awarded to the Virginia Regional Transit, effective July 1st. The turn-key contract in the amount of \$6.5 million requires that the provider furnish the buses, the driver and management/supervisory staff, and customer service functions, which meet or exceed the Federal Transit Administration requirements. Ms. Gourley further reported that in February, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and VRT executed a Memorandum of Agreement to transfer ownership of the

Fishersville Transit Facility to the CSPDC. This was followed by action taken by the Commonwealth Transportation Board to award to the CSPDC a grant in the amount of \$233,000 to fund a comprehensive condition report on the facility and to cover all costs related to the real estate transaction, including the purchase of the facility. The condition report is being prepared by the Timmons Group and they anticipate presenting the final report by the end of April. Ms. Gourley stated that thus far, the consultants have not identified or reported any significant issues with the facility. She introduced Mr. Jordan Bowman, Esq., of Litten & Sipe, who was present to discuss the next steps related to the transfer of ownership of the transit facility.

Consideration of Resolution to Authorize the CSPDC Chairman to Execute Documents Related to Transit Facility Ownership Transfer (BAF #17-6)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration a Resolution to authorize the CSPDC Chairman to execute documents related to the proposed transit facility ownership transfer. Mr. Jordan Bowman, Esq., of Litten & Sipe, reviewed the context of the Resolution that was presented for consideration by the Commission. He stated that during the 2016 Triennial Review of the CSPDC public transit program, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) had directed that ownership of the publicly-funded transit facility, located in Fishersville and developed with public funding to support provision of transit in the Staunton, Augusta County, Waynesboro area, be transferred to the public entity who administers the transit program, namely, the CSPDC. FTA and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) have initiated the process of transferring ownership of the facility to the CSPDC. Federal regulations require that the facility be used for transit purposes for its useful life of 40 years.

Mr. Bowman reviewed the contents of the proposed Resolution, noting that it does the following:

- Approves the expenditure of the purchase price, which is the money the CSPDC received in the grant just described;
- Approves the CSPDC receiving title to the facility and owning the facility;
- Ratifies and adopts the grant agreement for the purchase money;
- Authorizes the CSPDC Chairman or its Executive Director to execute the documents relating to the transfer of ownership;
- Authorizes the CSPDC Chairman or its Executive Director to execute a lease renting a portion of the facility to Augusta Health, if necessary to continue the existing lease with them; and
- Authorizes the CSPDC Chairman or its Executive Director to execute any ancillary documents necessary to effect the transaction.

Mr. Bowman stated that the clause that would give the CSPDC the right to assign CSPDC's rights and obligations under the contract to another entity if, during the term of the contract, another entity becomes the recipient of the federal transit funding, was included in the contract. Questions were raised regarding the current lease at the facility. Mr. Bowman stated that any change in the lease or leasing to another entity would need to be presented to the Commission but does not have to go

back to FTA for its approval. Ms. Sharon Angle moved, seconded by Dr. Marshall Pattie, to approve the Resolution authorizing the CSPDC Chairman to execute documents related to the transit facility ownership transfer. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs) (BAF #17-1)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs). Ms. Riedesel stated that she had received an additional CIRP from the Department of Environmental Quality for the Chesapeake Bay Implementation Program for \$16,665,732. Ms. Sharon Angle moved, seconded by Mr. Ned Overton, to endorse the staff recommendations on agenda item A-E. Motion carried unanimously. They are as follows:

- A. Rockbridge County Greenhouse Village Housing Production Project – Phase II. Rockbridge County has submitted an application for Community Improvement Grant (CIG) funds for Greenhouse Village Housing Production Project - Phase II for \$476,694. Given time constraints, the Executive Director submitted a letter of support for this project on March 21, 2017. Staff recommends ratification of the Executive Director’s endorsement letter.
- B. USDA Rural Development Grant Application for Rockbridge Area Health Center (RAHC). The Rockbridge Area Health Center in Lexington has submitted an application to the USDA Rural Development for \$5 million for proposed facility expansion activities associated with the RAHC in Lexington and Rockbridge County. Given time constraints, the Executive Director submitted a letter of support for this project on March 17, 2017. Staff recommends ratification of the Executive Director’s endorsement letter.
- C. USDA Local Foods Promotion Program (LFPP) for Fields of Gold (FOG) Shenandoah Valley Farm to Table Marketplace Program. The CSPDC submitted an application for a USDA LFPP through the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service grant program for \$466,027. Funds will be used to sponsor a Farm to Fork Trade Expo that will feature Shenandoah Valley farmers and their products, and connect farmers seeking markets for their products to restaurants and retailers that specialize in local foods. Given time constraints, the Executive Director submitted a letter of support for this project on March 17, 2017. Staff recommends ratification of the Executive Director’s endorsement letter.
- D. USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) for Fields of Gold (FOG) Agritourism Program. The CSPDC submitted an application for a USDA FMPP for FOG Agritourism Program for \$499,954. Funds will be used to promote the FOG farm trail and provide support to the 200+ member businesses. Given time constraints, the Executive Director submitted a letter of support for this project on March 17, 2017. Staff recommends ratification of the Executive Director’s endorsement letter.

- E. DEQ for Chesapeake Bay Implementation Program III for \$16,665,732. These funds will be used to accomplish objectives of the Virginia Chesapeake Bay TMDL Phase I and II Watershed Implementation Plan and Virginia's Milestones with an emphasis on nonpoint source pollution reduction programs. Staff recommends endorsement.

Adjournment

Chairman Friedman announced that the next CSPDC meeting will be held on June 19, 2017. There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita F. Whitfield
Clerk to the Commission

Approved:

Casey Armstrong
CSPDC Secretary



Minutes
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Meeting
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401
June 19, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Member Jurisdiction Representatives				
	Augusta County		City of Staunton	Staff
	Terry Kelley	✓	Carolyn Dull	✓ Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director
✓	Marshall Pattie, Treasurer	✓	Sharon Angle	✓ Rebecca Joyce, Community Program Manager
	Vickie Moran		Rockbridge County	✓ Elizabeth McCarty, Director of Planning
✓	Leslie Tate	✓	A. W. Buster Lewis	Ann Cundy, Transportation Program Manager
	Bath County	✓	Chris Slaydon	✓ Nancy Gourley, Transit Program Manager
	Edward Hicklin		Rockingham County	✓ Devon Thompson, Transit Coordinator
	City of Buena Vista	✓	Ned Overton	✓ Scott Philips, Transportation Planner
✓	Tim Petrie	✓	William Kyger	✓ Hunter Joseph, GIS Specialist/Planning Assistant
	City of Harrisonburg		Casey Armstrong, Secretary	✓ Jonathan Howard, Transportation Planner
	Ted Byrd		Kim Sandum	Liza Vick, Regional Planner
✓	George Hirschmann		City of Waynesboro	✓ Tracy Hibbits, Regional Planner
	Adam Fletcher	✓	Jeff Freeman	✓ Cindi Johnson, Fiscal Officer
	Highland County		Rusty Johnson	✓ Rita Whitfield, Office Manager
✓	Kevin Wagner, Vice Chair			✓ Kimberly Miller, Administrative Assistant
	City of Lexington			OTHERS
✓	Frank Friedman, Chairman			✓ Jean Clark, Lexington-Rockbridge Area Tourism

Call to Order

The June 19, 2017, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Frank Friedman.

Public Comment

Chairman Friedman opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no public comments.

Minutes

There being no corrections or additions, Chairman Friedman declared the minutes of the April 17, 2017, meeting approved as presented.

Executive Director's Report

Under Executive Director's Report, Ms. Bonnie Riedesel reported on the following:

- SMART SCALE Projects Funded. Ms. Riedesel stated that Augusta, Rockbridge, and Rockingham counties, the cities of Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, and Waynesboro, the CSPDC and the SAWMPO collectively submitted 20 applications to the SMART SCALE program in the fall of 2016. Twelve of the 20 SMART SCALE applications submitted from the CSPDC region are recommended for approval at the Commonwealth Transportation Board's June 20th meeting. The total funding of for these 12 projects is \$37 million.
- Transportation Alternative Grants Recommended for Funding. Ms. Riedesel stated that the Commonwealth Transportation Board will announce their awards for the FY18 Transportation Alternatives (TA) program on June 20, 2017. She noted that grant recipients include the City of Buena Vista for sidewalks and streetscaping on Magnolia Avenue and the construction of a paved, shared-use path under the Route 60 bridge; City of Waynesboro for Phase III of the South River Greenway project; and the Town of Bridgewater for their Riverwalk Trail along the North River.
- Housing Summit. Ms. Riedesel stated that the CSPDC and the Bath County Economic Development Authority hosted a free Regional Housing Summit on May 25th in Hot Springs. Ms. Riedesel gave a brief report on the Summit, noting that more than 35 attendees attended.
- Virginia Association of Planning District Commission (VAPDC) Summer Conference. Ms. Riedesel announced that the VAPDC will hold its annual conference on July 19-21 in Norfolk. Ms. Riedesel asked that any Commissioner who wished to attend to please let her know.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Friedman reported that Mr. Dixon Whitworth, Commonwealth Transportation Board member, toured project sites in Rockbridge County and the cities of Buena Vista and Lexington, following the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board meeting on May 3rd. He expressed his appreciation to Commission staff for arranging the tour and to Mr. Whitworth for his interest in the region. Mr. Friedman announced that on June 30th, ownership of the Transit Facility in Fishersville will be transferred to the CSPDC. A ribbon cutting event is scheduled for July 27, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

Treasurer's Report

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration the Treasurer's Report (attached to file minutes). Dr. Marshall Pattie gave a report on the April 30, 2017, Financial Statement, noting that there were no major changes. He reported that the FY17 Audit Report is scheduled to be presented at the December CSPDC Commission meeting. Dr. Pattie moved, seconded by Ms. Sharon Angle, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Draft CSPDC FY18 Budget (BAF #17-11) and Consideration of FY17 Budget Revision (BAF #17-13)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration the Draft CSPDC FY18 Budget and the FY17 Budget Revision (attached to file minutes). Dr. Marshall Pattie gave a brief review on the Budget, noting that the FY18 Budget goes into effect on July 1st. He stated that the per capita assessment remains the same at base plus 70 cents per capita. Dr. Pattie reported on the new programs for FY18. He noted that the CSPDC FY18 Budget is basically a balanced budget with a small surplus anticipated. Dr. Pattie then reported on the FY17 Budget Revision. He noted that this request is for approval for a revision to the CSPDC FY17 Budget. The revisions take into account the staffing changes made during the year along with some funding changes. Dr. Pattie stated that the Executive Committee had reviewed the FY18 Budget and FY17 Budget Revision at their May 15, 2017, meeting and recommended approval.

Ms. Cindi Johnson presented a PowerPoint presentation on the FY18 Budget. She noted that funding for state and federal programs like Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), Economic Development Administration (EDA), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Rural Transportation and Transit continue to remain at comparable levels to prior years. Ms. Johnson reviewed the budget process, FY18 budget highlights, wage and benefit assumptions, contracted services, program budgets, indirect costs, and CSPDC funds.

Ms. Riedesel reported on the CSPDC FY18 Budget, noting that it was a very complicated budget. She noted that the CSPDC has received very clean audits from all the federal and state agencies. Ms. Riedesel expressed her appreciation to the jurisdictions and Commissioners for their support, leadership, and guidance and to the CSPDC staff for their hard work and dedication on developing the Budget and managing projects throughout the year.

Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, Dr. Marshall Pattie moved, seconded by Mr. Buster Lewis, to approve the CSPDC FY18 Budget and the FY17 Budget Revision. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Marshall Pattie distributed copies of the Corporate Signing Authority. Ms. Johnson stated that the Commission is in the process of updating the deposit account agreements with BB&T for both the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC) and the Central Shenandoah Development Corporation (CSDC). For both the CSPDC and CSDC, the following are authorized signatories: any Executive Committee member, Staunton Commissioner and the Executive Director. Dr. Pattie moved, seconded by Mr. Buster Lewis, to approve the signatories as listed. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Presentation – Shenandoah Valley Tourism Partnership: Collaborating to Promote Today's Shenandoah Valley

Ms. Elizabeth McCarty introduced and welcomed Ms. Jean Clark, Director of Tourism, Lexington and Rockbridge Area Tourism. Ms. Clark gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Shenandoah Valley Tourism Partnership, which is a new tourism marketing initiative partnership that was launched on May 24th. She noted that the Shenandoah Valley Tourism Partnership is a professional

collaboration between tourism-forward communities stretching from Winchester to Lexington, whose mission is to promote the Shenandoah Valley as an outstanding year-round destination for visitors from around the world. Ms. Clark distributed copies of the Shenandoah Valley Tourism Partnership's brochure entitled "Today's Shenandoah Valley."

Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs) (BAF #17-12)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs). Ms. Carolyn Dull moved, seconded by Dr. Marshall Pattie, to endorse the staff recommendations on agenda items A-D. Motion carried unanimously. They are as follows:

- A) An application submitted by Six Penny Farm, LLC and The Stables at Six Penny Farm, LLC, McGaheysville, VA, for a Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program (B&I) to the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) to refinance a construction loan. Staff recommends endorsement.
- B) An application submitted by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Draft SPR Work Program for FY18. VDOT has submitted its annual work program for review and comment for a grand total of \$70,534,595. Staff recommends endorsement.
- C) An application submitted by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for Pesticide Performance Partnership Grant Application for FY18-FY21 for a total funding of \$2,381,632. Staff recommends endorsement.
- D) An application submitted by Civil Consulting Group for USDA Rural Development Loan Application Environmental Report for Virginia Horse Center. The Virginia Horse Center is proposing to refinance approximately \$11 million in existing debt and to borrow an additional \$770,000 +/- in order to make improvements to its infrastructure, expand existing parking lots, and rainwater harvesting from rooftops and a water well. Staff recommends endorsement.

Adjournment

Chairman Friedman announced that the CSPDC will be having its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Monday, August 21, 2017, to be held at the BRITE Transit Facility, 51 Ivy Ridge Lane, Fishersville. He stated that each Commissioner will be asked to bring along one other person from their locality (City/County/Town Manager, department head, or elected official) to attend the August meeting.

Mr. Friedman reminded everyone of the ribbon cutting event for the transit building on July 27, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita F. Whitfield, Clerk to the Commission

Approved:

Casey Armstrong
CSPDC Secretary



Minutes
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Meeting
The BRITE Transit Facility
51 Ivy Ridge Lane, Fishersville, Virginia 22939
August 21, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Member Jurisdiction Representatives				
	Augusta County		City of Staunton	Staff
✓	Terry Kelley	✓	Carolyn Dull	✓ Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director
	Marshall Pattie, Treasurer	✓	Sharon Angle	✓ Rebecca Joyce, Community Program Manager
	Vickie Moran		Rockbridge County	✓ Elizabeth McCarty, Director of Planning
✓	Leslie Tate		A. W. Buster Lewis	✓ Ann Cundy, Transportation Program Manager
	Bath County	✓	Chris Slaydon	✓ Nancy Gourley, Transit Program Manager
✓	Edward Hicklin		Rockingham County	✓ Devon Thompson, Transit Coordinator
	City of Buena Vista	✓	Ned Overton	✓ Scott Philips, Transportation Planner
	Tim Petrie		William Kyger	✓ Hunter Joseph, GIS Specialist/Planning Assistant
	City of Harrisonburg	✓	Casey Armstrong, Secretary	✓ Jonathan Howard, Transportation Planner
✓	Ted Byrd		Kim Sandum	✓ Liza Vick, Regional Planner
✓	George Hirschmann		City of Waynesboro	✓ Tracy Hibbitts, Regional Planner
✓	Adam Fletcher	✓	Jeff Freeman	✓ Cindi Johnson, Fiscal Officer
	Highland County		Rusty Johnson	✓ Spencer Eavers, Agritourism Coordinator
	Kevin Wagner, Vice Chair			Rita Whitfield, Office Manager
	City of Lexington			✓ Kimberly Miller, Administrative Assistant
✓	Frank Friedman, Chairman			OTHERS
				✓ Stephen King, Rockingham County
				✓ Carolyn Bragg, Augusta County
				✓ Ande Banks, Harrisonburg
				✓ Leslie Straughan, Lexington
				✓ John Higgins, Rockbridge
				✓ Walter Obenschain, Staunton
				✓ Julia Bortle, Waynesboro
				✓ Bill Shelton, Dept. Housing & Comm. Dev.
				✓ Karen Lawrence, KL Creative Media
				✓ Phil Thompson, Virginia Regional Transit
				✓ Bruce Simms, Virginia Regional Transit
				✓ Susan Newbrough, Virginia Regional Transit

Call To Order

The August 21, 2017, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Annual meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Friedman. He welcomed everyone to the BRITE Transit Facility and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Public Comment

Chairman Friedman opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no public comments.

Minutes

Chairman Friedman presented the minutes from the June 19, 2017, CSPDC Commission meeting. Ms. Angle moved, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Chairman's Report

Under Chairman's Report, Chairman Friedman gave an update on GO Virginia. He noted that the GO Virginia Region #8 includes ten counties and six cities with a total population of 525,000. He reviewed GO Virginia's purpose statement and gave an update on the first six months of activity of GO Virginia's Regional Council in which they recruited 28 citizens to serve on the Region 8's Regional Council; established the governance structure; established staff support; prepared and secured operating budget of \$650,000; conducted four Regional Council meetings; engaged Camoin & Associates to prepare Region 8's Growth and Diversification Plan; and solicited economic development projects for review and approval.

Executive Director's Report

Under Executive Director's Report, Ms. Riedesel presented the CSPDC "A Year in Review FY 2017" which highlights some of the programs, projects, and events that took place this past year. Ms. Riedesel noted that the organization is growing and becoming more involved in important programs and projects that have a direct impact on the region, communities, citizens, and businesses. She gave an update on the upcoming and ongoing programs and projects. Ms. Riedesel stated that the CSPDC has been recognized across the state and beyond for many innovative and collaborative efforts. She expressed her appreciation to the jurisdictions and Commissioners for their support, leadership, and guidance and to the CSPDC staff for their hard work and dedication.

Treasurer's Report

Chairperson Friedman presented for consideration the Treasurer's Report (attached to file minutes). Ms. Johnson gave a review on the June 30, 2017, Financial Statement. Mr. Byrd moved, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Resolution for BRITE Transit Title VI Policy (BAF #17-15)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration a Resolution for BRITE Transit Title VI Policy (attached to file minutes). Ms. Gourley gave a review on the Title VI Policy. She noted that the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Title VI Plan was developed to ensure the CSPDC is in compliance with nondiscrimination requirements as outlined in Title 23 CFR and 49 CFR and related laws and provides specific information on how to file a nondiscrimination complaint. Ms. Gourley stated that an approved Title VI Plan is required in order to become the direct recipient of Federal Transportation Administration Grant Funding.

Ms. Gourley noted that this Plan also provides an overview of Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) concepts, definitions of Title VI and associated nondiscrimination acts, and how Title VI, Environmental Justice and LEP are incorporated into the metropolitan transportation planning process. She stated that the Environmental Justice guidelines and outreach strategies for minority, low-income, and LEP populations are included within the CSPDC Public Participation Plan. Ms. Tate moved, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to adopt the Resolution for the 2017 Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Title VI Plan. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs) (BAF #17-14)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRPs). Mr. Byrd moved, seconded by Mr. Casey, to endorse the staff recommendations on agenda items A, B, and C. Motion carried unanimously. They are as follows:

- A. An application submitted by Boxerwood Education Association for an Environmental Justice Small Grants Award for Boosting Community Well-Being through Youth Green Teams in Rockbridge County for a total funding of \$30,000. Funding will be used to pilot a replicable model that addresses the problem of how to advance citizen-level environmental stewardship in under-resourced rural or small-town populations. Staff recommends endorsement of the project.
- B. An application submitted by the CSPDC for USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grant for \$180,000. Technical assistance will be provided through a new *Stronger Places Community Facilities Program* implemented by the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission. The CSPDC will provide focused technical assistance to a group of small rural localities that tend to be economically stressed and have low staffing and limited capacity to address the challenges of planning and funding essential community facilities. Staff recommends endorsement of the project.
- C. An application submitted by The Virginia Horse Center for USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program for Stormwater Improvements for a total funding of \$778,656. Funding will be used to reduce erosion and sedimentation by improving the stormwater drainage and outfall characteristics within the Virginia Horse Center's Core Area. The secondary purpose is to replace much of its existing lighting with LEDs in order to save money and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Staff recommends endorsement of the project.

Other Business

Under Other Business, Chairman Friedman presented a Resolution in support of the Virginia Horse Center Foundation for a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan application for an additional borrowing of \$1.55 million. Mr. Chris Slaydon gave a brief review on the request, noting that the purpose for the request is for the Virginia Horse Center Foundation to consolidate debt and improve capital infrastructure. He stated that the Horse Center is centrally located in Rockbridge County and has had a dynamic impact on Rockbridge County and the surrounding localities. The Center also hosts many non-equine events such as dog shows, BMX races, Farmers Market, and the Rockbridge Regional Fair and Expo, that is taking place on September 7-9, 2017. Mr. Slaydon stated that Rockbridge County and the City of Lexington, recognizing the positive economic impact the Virginia Horse Center has on the regional economic, have determined to dedicate one percent of each locality's transient occupancy tax for purposes of servicing the proposed new USDA loan. Ms. Angle moved, seconded by Mr. Hirschmann, to approve the Resolution. Motion carried with Chairman Friedman abstaining due to a conflict of interest.

Adjournment

Chairman Friedman announced that the next CSPDC meeting will be held on October 16, 2017. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the CSPDC Commission members unanimously adjourned at 6:30 p.m. to dinner and presentations by the CSPDC staff and by Mr. Bill Shelton, Director, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Riedesel
Executive Director

Approved:

Casey Armstrong
CSPDC Secretary



Minutes
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Meeting
112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401
October 16, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Member Jurisdiction Representatives				
	Augusta County		City of Staunton	Staff
	Terry Kelley	✓	Carolyn Dull	✓ Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director
✓	Marshall Pattie, Treasurer	✓	Sharon Angle	✓ Rebecca Joyce, Community Program Manager
✓	Vickie Moran		Rockbridge County	✓ Elizabeth McCarty, Director of Planning
✓	Leslie Tate		A. W. Buster Lewis	✓ Ann Cundy, Transportation Program Manager
	Bath County	✓	Chris Slaydon	✓ Nancy Gourley, Transit Program Manager
	Edward Hicklin		Rockingham County	✓ Devon Thompson, Transit Coordinator
	City of Buena Vista	✓	Ned Overton	✓ Scott Philips, Transportation Planner
✓	Tim Petrie		William Kyger	✓ Hunter Joseph, GIS Specialist/Planning Assistant
	City of Harrisonburg	✓	Casey Armstrong, Secretary	✓ Jonathan Howard, Transportation Planner
✓	Ted Byrd	✓	Kim Sandum	✓ Liza Vick, Regional Planner
✓	George Hirschmann		City of Waynesboro	Tracy Hibbits, Regional Planner
	Adam Fletcher		Jeff Freeman	✓ Cindi Johnson, Fiscal Officer
	Highland County		Rusty Johnson	✓ Rita Whitfield, Office Manager
	Kevin Wagner, Vice Chair			✓ Kimberly Miller, Administrative Assistant
	City of Lexington			✓ Spencer Eavers, Agritourism Coordinator
✓	Frank Friedman, Chairman			OTHERS
				✓ Jeff Lineberry, VDOT

Call to Order

The October 16, 2017, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Frank Friedman.

Public Comment

Chairman Friedman opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no public comments.

Minutes

Chairman Friedman presented the minutes from the August 21, 2017, CSPDC Commission meeting. Dr. Pattie moved, seconded by Mr. Hirschmann, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Under Chairman's Report, Chairman Friedman expressed his appreciation for those in attendance at the August 21, 2017, CSPDC Commission meeting that was held at the BRITE Transit Facility in Fishersville. He gave an update on GO Virginia, noting that in order to receive funds from GO Virginia, the development of an Economic Growth and Diversification Plan is required. Mr. Friedman noted that the Region 8 Regional Council began this process in June with the procurement of a consultant, Camoin Associates. He stated that the Plan was submitted to the State Board on August 25, 2017, and approved on September 12, 2017, and copies of the Executive Summary are available. Mr. Friedman noted that the goal of the Plan is to identify targeted business sectors that produce jobs in the region that are higher paying and where job growth is expected in the next five years. He then reviewed the five targeted industries that were identified. Chairman Friedman noted that applications for projects were due on October 13, 2017, and reviewed the three proposals that were received in the first round. He stated that the Grant Proposal Review Committee will make recommendations to the Region 8 Regional Council at its October 30th meeting. Ms. Riedesel noted that there is approximately \$1 million in per capita funds set aside for Region 8 and \$11 million in statewide competitive funds available. She stated that the CSPDC was responsible for the oversight of the development of the Economic Growth and Diversification Plan and the work of the consultants.

Chairman Friedman reported on the Executive Committee meeting, held prior to the Full Commission meeting. He stated that the Executive Committee unanimously agreed to establish a committee to develop and manage a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for the CSPDC auditors. He stated that Carolyn Dull, Bonnie Riedesel, and Cindi Johnson were appointed to serve on the committee.

Chairman Friedman stated that the Executive Committee received an update on the BRITE Transit Facility and reviewed the transit facility budget. Chairman Friedman stated that the Executive Committee also unanimously agreed to align the CSPDC holiday schedule with the State holiday schedule, thus allowing the Commission to receive an additional four hours on November 22nd and December 22nd, and a full day on January 2nd.

Executive Director's Report

Under Executive Director's Report, Ms. Bonnie Riedesel:

- Reported that 25,000 copies of a guide entitled "Too Much Weather: A Disaster Activity Book for Kids" has been shipped to hurricane-affected areas. Ms. Joyce stated that a Shenandoah Valley Project Impact (SVPI) publication created to help children understand disaster preparedness and navigate the stress of severe weather has been formatted into a mini-guide that is now in the hands of children impacted by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. She noted that word has quickly spread about the availability of the guide, and SVPI has received requests for copies from groups like the Virgin Islands Children's Museum, located in St. Thomas. Ms. Joyce also reported on the CSPDC Hurricane Relief donations.
- Announced that Rockbridge County was awarded a \$476,693 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to add neighborhood infrastructure and 12 new homes to the Greenhouse Village Housing Production Project, Phase II. This will bring the total number of

homes to 27, and the additional infrastructure upgrades will allow Habitat for Humanity to build 8 more homes in the future. Ms. Riedesel stated that the CSPDC has assisted Rockbridge County with the CDBG grant applications for both phases of the Greenhouse Village project, and will provide ongoing grant administrative services.

- Reported on the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO) and the Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization (CA-MPO) third annual joint meeting that was held on September 27th in Crozet. Ms. Riedesel noted that the next meeting is scheduled for fall in 2018 in the SAWMPO region.
- Announced that Bath and Highland counties and the Town of Monterey will join together to create the Bath-Highland Network Authority. Ms. Riedesel stated that the group will facilitate the provision of affordable highspeed data, internet, and telecommunications services in the area. She noted that the creation of this partnership was supported by a Virginia Telecommunication Initiative grant through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. Ms. Riedesel noted that the CSPDC staff provided project management and grant administration services.
- Announced that CSPDC staff will be part of a panel at the Governor's Transportation Conference to be held on October 24-27, 2017, at the Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs. Ms. Riedesel stated that CSPDC staff will present the Inter-Regional Transit Plan that studied the feasibility of a transit system linking the cities of Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Charlottesville.
- Announced that Rockbridge County and the cities of Buena Vista and Lexington have been awarded an \$18,000 grant through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management's State Homeland Security Program to update their Emergency Operations Plan. Ms. Riedesel stated that CSPDC staff assisted in the preparation of the grant and will provide assistance in preparing the Plan.

Treasurer's Report

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration the Treasurer's Report (attached to file minutes). Dr. Pattie gave a report on the August 31, 2017, Financial Statement. He reported on the per capita assessments and the BRITE Transit Facility assets. Dr. Pattie noted that the FY17 Audit Report is scheduled to be presented at the December CSPDC Commission meeting. He reported that the Executive Committee had reviewed and unanimously approved the FY18 Budget Revision at their meeting prior to the Full Commission meeting. Dr. Pattie moved, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation and Consideration of Resolution to Adopt Transportation Demand Management Long-Range Plan (BAF #17-17)

Chairman Friedman presented for consideration a Resolution to adopt the Transportation Demand Management Long-Range Plan (TDMP) (attached to file minutes). Ms. Joyce gave a PowerPoint presentation on the TDMP for Fiscal Years 2019-2024, recently completed by Michael Baker International, on behalf of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT). She noted that DRPT requires that any transportation demand management program operator receiving state or federal funding through DRPT prepare, adopt, and submit a TDMP. Ms. Joyce reviewed the purpose of the TDMP, what the plan includes, and the goals of the TDMP. Mr. Armstrong moved,

seconded by Mr. Slaydon, to endorse the Resolution to adopt the TDMP. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Presentation on I-81 Corridor

Chairman Friedman introduced and welcomed Mr. Jeff Lineberry, VDOT Transportation Land Use Director, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on Virginia Interstate 81 Corridor. Mr. Lineberry reviewed the I-81 Corridor Significance, Elevation Profile, Primary Truck Routes, Impact of Trucks and Terrain, Traffic Volume Trends, Impact of Incidents, Incident Trends, Common Recovery Issues, Incident Management Omnibus Bill, Funding and Projects on the Way, Planning Level Cost of Improvements, and INFRA Grants. He stated that over 24 million vehicle hours of delay occurred in FY16 on Virginia's interstates alone. He noted that a national estimate states that roadway incidents contribute to 25 percent of congestion. Mr. Lineberry reviewed the planning level cost of improvements, noting that adding one lane with wide shoulders would cost \$10 to 15 million per direction (per mile), and \$30-\$50 million per interchange. He stated that there are lots of variables that affect cost such as the number of bridges, right-of-way cost, cross street improvements (local road network), etc.

Fields of Gold Video Presentation

Chairman Friedman presented the Fields of Gold (FOG) Video. Ms. Eavers, CSPDC Agritourism Coordinator, presented the FOG video. Ms. Eavers stated that the FOG's goal is to promote and market the Shenandoah Valley as an agritourism destination. Secondly, and most importantly, it is an economic development program to support the agricultural community by creating and maintaining jobs both on the farm and off the farm. She noted that the video promotes FOG and represents local farmers who are members of FOG.

Other Business

Under Other Business, Ms. McCarty reported on the Grant Proposal Review Committee meeting that she had attended in Edinburg prior to the Full Commission meeting. She reported on the three proposals that were received in the first round, noting that the Review Committee will meet again on October 23, 2017, to revisit the proposals, and will submit their recommendation to the Region 8 Regional Council at its October 30, 2017 meeting. Ms. McCarty stated that after the Region 8 Regional Council approves, applications will be submitted for final approval to the State GO Virginia Board in December.

Upon a question regarding upcoming activities of the Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP), Ms. Riedesel stated that SVP will be holding their Economic Development Forum this Friday, October 20th, at Massanutten Resort, followed by the SVP Board meeting. She noted that Camoin Associates will present the GO Virginia Region 8: Economic Growth and Diversification Plan to those in attendance.

Adjournment

Chairman Friedman announced that the next CSPDC Commission meeting will be held on December 18, 2017. There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita F. Whitfield, Clerk to the Commission

Approved:

Casey Armstrong
CSPDC Secretary

Private Members		Public Members		Staff	
✓	John Downey , Chair & Blue Ridge Community College	✓	Augusta County Carolyn Bragg	✓	Carrie Chenery Executive Director
✓	Greg Godsey , Chair Emeritus & Union Bank		Bath County Claire Collins	✓	Tish Blackwell Marketing & Communications Manager
✓	Charles Hendricks , Development Committee Vice-Chair, The Gaines Group	✓	City of Buena Vista Brian Brown	✓	Courtland Robinson Director of Business Development
✓	Chip Harvill Cadence	✓	Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Bonnie Riedesel		
✓	Emmett Toms Dominion Virginia Power	✓	City of Harrisonburg Brian Shull (Treasurer)		
✓	Keith May Cottonwood Commercial Realty	✓	Highland County Robin Sullenberger		Vice-Chairs
✓	Scot Lilly Farm Credit of the Virginias	✓	James Madison University Melissa Lubin	✓	Debbie Melvin , Education/Workforce Committee Vice-Chair, Virginia Jobs Investment Program
✓	Tony Biller Nielsen Builders, Inc.		City of Lexington Noah Simon		
✓	Neal Menefee The Rockingham Group		Page County Mark Stroupe		
	Chris Kyle Shentel	✓	Rockbridge County Sam Crickenberger		
	Bobby Berkstresser White's Travel Center	✓	Rockingham County George Anas		
	Dr. Linda Reviea Staunton City Schools	✓	Shenandoah County Bradley Polk		
✓	Greg Campbell Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport		City of Staunton William Vaughn		
		✓	City of Waynesboro Greg Hitchin		

Call to Order

The January 27, 2017, Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP) Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairperson Downey.

Welcome – John Downey, Chair of the Board

Chairperson Downey welcomed all Board Members.

Approval of Minutes – October 21, 2016

Chairperson Downey presented the minutes of the October 21, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting.

Motion by Greg Campbell to approve the minutes of October 21, 2016; seconded by Neal Menefee. Motion approved unanimously.

Directors Roundtable

The Board of Directors shared announcements from their respective communities.

Committee Reports**Treasurer's Report – Brian Shull**

Treasurer Brian Shull reviewed the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet through December, 2016.

Motion by Greg Godsey to approve the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance sheet as submitted; seconded by Robin Sullenberger. Motion approved unanimously.

Marketing Committee – Greg Hitchin

Greg Hitchin updated the Board on the Marketing Committee's FY16-17 commitment to utilize funds to engage corporate decision makers and consultants, as well as to invest in resources that allow the committee to better market itself to these influencers.

Courtland Robinson updated the Board on the remaining FY 16-17 marketing calendar, current project activity, construction of SVP's new customer relationship management system, as well as SVP's direct lead generation efforts.

Development Committee – Charles Hendrix

Charles Hendrix updated the Board on the Development Committee's goal to bring the organization's funding to a 60% Private/ 40% Public funding ratio, as well as updated Directors on the committee's efforts to implement a new \$500 investment floor by the end of January, 2017. Charles emphasized that the committee would be reaching out to existing efforts on a 1-1 basis.

Charles reminded the Board of SVP's Spring Connect Event in May, 2017.

Education and Workforce Committee – Debbie Melvin

The Education and Workforce Committee is working to confirm that those employees highlighted during the WHSV In-Demand Job Campaign are still working for the respective companies and still willing to participate in the

program. The committee is continuing to coordinate with local, regional and state partners to enhance Valley Career Hub, and intends to launch a social media campaign in 2017.

Debbie reminded the Board of the upcoming Education and Workforce Committee meeting on February 10th at BRCC.

New Business

FY15-16 Audit – Brian Shull, Treasurer

Brian Shull updated the Board on SVP's FY15-16 Audit. The audit was approved at the last Board of Director's Meeting held on October 21, 2016.

Executive Director Update – Carrie Chenery

Ms. Chenery updated the Board on VEDP's appointment of a new CEO, Stephen Moret. Moret comes from Louisiana, and has vowed to focus specifically on the needs of individual regions around the State. Carrie reminded the Board of the Partnership's Spring Forum on April 21st, and stated that a draft list the Partnership's events, details and location was being constructed for planning purposes. Carrie also mentioned that the SVP's Harvest Box marketing campaign was used as an example of best practices in the State's Guidebook for local elected officials.

Ms. Chenery ended by thanking the Board for their ongoing support while the Partnership undertakes a number of new initiatives.

GO Virginia Update

Bonnie Riedesel updated the Board on the formation of the Valley's regional council, stating that for years public partners have anticipated this kind of approach to economic development efforts around the State. Bonnie reiterated that regional councils around the Commonwealth were asked to organize and submit letters of intent by February 17, 2017 to DHCD for Board review and certification during their March meeting. Bonnie requested formal approval by the SVP BOD to submit this letter of intent on behalf of the Shenandoah Valley.

Motion by Emmett Toms to submit a GO Virginia letter of intent; seconded by Brian Shull. Motion approved unanimously.

Next Meeting Date

In conjunction with the Spring Economic Development Forum, the next Board of Directors meeting will be on Friday, April 21, 2017, from 10:30 am to Noon at the Forbes Center in Harrisonburg.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson John Downey adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Private Members		Public Members		Staff	
✓	John Downey, Chair Blue Ridge Community College	✓	Augusta County Carolyn Bragg	✓	Carrie Chenery Executive Director
✓	Greg Godsey, Chair Emeritus & Union Bank	✓	Bath County Claire Collins	✓	Tish Blackwell Marketing & Communications Manager
✓	Charles Hendricks, Development Committee Vice-Chair, The Gaines Group	✓	City of Buena Vista Brian Brown	✓	Courtland Robinson Director of Business Development
✓	Chip Harvill Cadence	✓	Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Bonnie Riedesel		
✓	Emmett Toms Dominion Virginia Power	✓	City of Harrisonburg Brian Shull (Treasurer)		
✓	Keith May, Vice Chair Cottonwood Commercial Realty	✓	Highland County Robin Sullenberger		Vice-Chairs
✓	Scot Lilly Farm Credit of the Virginias	✓	James Madison University Melissa Lubin	✓	Debbie Melvin, Education/Workforce Committee Vice-Chair
✓	Tony Biller Nielsen Builders, Inc.		City of Lexington Noah Simon		Guests
✓	Neal Menefee The Rockingham Group	✓	Page County Mark Stroupe	✓	Amanda Glover Augusta County
✓	Chris Kyle Shentel		Rockbridge County Sam Crickenberger	✓	Elizabeth McCarty Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission
	Bobby Berkstresser White's Travel Center		Rockingham County George Anas	✓	Stephen Moret Virginia Economic Development Partnership
✓	Dr. Linda Reviea Staunton City Schools	✓	Shenandoah County Bradley Polk	✓	Jay Langston Virginia Economic Development Partnership
✓	Greg Campbell Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport	✓	City of Staunton William Vaughn		
		✓	City of Waynesboro Greg Hitchin		

Call to Order

The April 21, 2017, Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP) Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chairperson Downey.

Welcome – John Downey, Chair of the Board

Chairperson Downey welcomed all Board Members.

Approval of Minutes – January 27, 2017

Chairperson Downey presented the minutes of the January 27, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting.

Motion by Bradley Polk to approve the minutes of January 27, 2017; seconded by Brian Shull. Motion approved unanimously.

Committee Reports**Treasurer's Report – Brian Shull, Treasurer**

Treasurer Brian Shull reviewed the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet through March, 2017.

Motion by Greg Hitchin to approve the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance sheet as submitted; seconded by Emmett Toms. Motion approved unanimously.

Development Committee – Charles Hendricks, Chair

Charles Hendricks updated the Board on current membership levels after all \$250 level members were notified about the increased investment to \$500:

- 16 renewed at the new \$500 level

- 11 dropped

- 17 are outstanding/awaiting a reply

- 3 new members joined

- 4 existing members increased their investments from \$1,000 to \$2,500

Motion by Scot Lilly to approve the Development Committee report; seconded by Neal Menefee. Motion approved unanimously.

Education and Workforce Committee – Dr. Linda Reviea, Chair

Dr. Linda Reviea updated the Board on the Education and Workforce Committee, which has been working in sub-groups to further advance Valley Career Hub and specific initiatives associated with workforce development.

Guest Comments

Stephen Moret, new President & CEO of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, addressed the Board further adding to his keynote remarks at the SVP Spring Forum. Moret briefed the Board on his vision for VEDP, their upcoming strategic and economic growth plans, and their focus on growing and supporting all regions of the Commonwealth economically. Moret commended SVP on their collaborative work in the region, their significant efficiencies on a limited budget, and their first-class marketing materials.

New Business

FY17-18 Budget Approval– Brian Shull, Treasurer & Carrie Chenery

Brian Shull & Carrie Chenery updated the Board on SVP's proposed FY17-18 Budget of \$530,569. There was Board discussion on the budget, which includes a one-year only reserve draw to supplement a new Administrative Coordinator position for both SVP and GO Virginia. GO Virginia funds will accommodate half of the position while SVP will match that half with money from the healthy reserve account.

Board member Neal Menefee asked that the Treasurer and staff be cognizant of the reserve account going forward, and consider maintaining a higher balance to adequately safeguard the Partnership's growing budget.

Motion by Bradley Polk to approve the Budget as presented; seconded by Scot Lilly. Motion approved unanimously.

GO Virginia Update – Carrie Chenery

Carrie Chenery updated the Board on GO Virginia, which is progressing in Region 8 in the Shenandoah Valley. The Region 8 Council held a kickoff, organizational meeting on April 3, 2017, and their next meeting will be on May 23rd. The Council's first big task is to hire a consultant to complete a regional Growth & Diversification Plan to identify target industries of opportunity for the Valley.

SVP Staff Update – Carrie Chenery & John Downey

Director Chenery & Chairman Downey gave an update on SVP's desired hiring process for an Administrative Coordinator, and sought approval from the Board to move forward through HR at JMU to post, interview and hire for this position to assist both SVP and GO Virginia. The Board was in agreement with this approach following their FY18 budget approval.

Upcoming Events

The SVP Spring Connect Event will be May 16, 2017, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Rockbridge County at the Natural Bridge State Park, 6477 South Lee Highway, Natural Bridge, VA 24578.

The SVP Annual Meeting will be held in July 2017, with a date and location TBA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson John Downey sought a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m. Robin Sullenberger so moved and Billy Vaughn seconded with the motion approved unanimously.

Private Members		Public Members		Staff	
✓	John Downey, Chair Blue Ridge Community College	✓	Augusta County Carolyn Bragg	✓	Carrie Chenery Executive Director
✓	Greg Godsey, Chair Emeritus & Union Bank		Bath County Claire Collins	✓	Tish Blackwell Marketing & Communications Manager
✓	Charles Hendricks, Development Committee Vice-Chair, The Gaines Group	✓	City of Buena Vista Brian Brown	✓	Courtland Robinson Director of Business Development
✓	Chip Harvill Cadence	✓	Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Bonnie Riedesel	✓	Jen Weaver Administrative Coordinator
	Emmett Toms Dominion Virginia Power	✓	City of Harrisonburg Brian Shull (Treasurer)	✓	Skylar Mouris Intern
✓	Keith May, Vice Chair Cottonwood Commercial Realty	✓	Highland County Robin Sullenberger		
✓	Scot Lilly Farm Credit of the Virginias	✓	James Madison University Melissa Lubin		Vice-Chairs
✓	Tony Biller Nielsen Builders, Inc.		City of Lexington Noah Simon		Debbie Melvin, Education/Workforce Committee Vice-Chair
	Neal Menefee The Rockingham Group	✓	Page County Mark Stroupe		Guests
	Chris Kyle Shentel		Rockbridge County Sam Crickenberger	✓	Amanda Glover Augusta County
	Bobby Berkstresser White's Travel Center	✓	Rockingham County George Anas	✓	Rockbridge County Brandy Flint
✓	Dr. Linda Reviea Staunton City Schools	✓	Shenandoah County Bradley Polk		
✓	Greg Campbell Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport		City of Staunton William Vaughn		
		✓	City of Waynesboro Greg Hitchin		

Call to Order

The July 28, 2017, Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP) Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Chairperson Downey.

Welcome – John Downey, Chair of the Board

Chairperson Downey welcomed all Board Members.

Approval of Minutes – April 21, 2017

Chairperson Downey presented the minutes of the April 21, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting.

Motion by George Anas to approve the minutes of April 21, 2017; seconded by Brian Brown. Motion approved unanimously.

Committee Reports**Treasurer's Report – Brian Shull, Treasurer**

Treasurer Brian Shull reviewed the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet through June 30, 2017.

Motion by Brian Brown to approve the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance sheet as submitted; seconded by Scot Lilly. Motion approved unanimously.

Marketing Committee – Greg Hitchen, Chair

Greg Hitchen updated the Board and SVP membership of FY17 marketing activities conducted by the SVP during the Annual Meeting. He discussed call trips made to visit site selection consultants and potential business contacts. Chairperson Hitchen highlighted the new SVP Food & Beverage Infographic, its data points and how it conveys the Valley's strong ties to the food and beverage industry and the agricultural heritage of our region. Other topics included the successful FY 17 site consultant Familiarization Tour and award-winning Harvest Box marketing piece.

Development Committee – Charles Hendricks, Chair

Charles Hendricks updated the Board and SVP membership of FY17 membership totals during the Annual Meeting. Chairperson Hendricks also discussed the 5-year goal of achieving a 60/40 distribution between public and private sector members.

Education and Workforce Committee – Dr. Linda Reviea, Chair

Dr. Linda Reviea updated the Board and SVP membership on the Education and Workforce Committee during the Annual Meeting. Chairperson Reviea discussed FY17 efforts to enhance Valley Career Hub and work being performed in sub-groups to further advance marketing efforts of this resource to both in-school children and adults to address specific initiatives associated with workforce development.

New Business

Approval of Officers & Board Appointments and Reappointments:

Board appointments and reappointments were presented to the Board by Executive Director Carrie Chenery for approval.

Public Sector:

Mr. Robin Sullenberger
Mr. George Anas
Ms. Bonnie Riedesel
Mr. Brian Shull
Mr. Bradley Polk
Mr. William Vaughn

Private Sector:

Neal Menefee
Mr. Emmett Toms
Mr. Greg Godsey
Mr. Keith May
Mr. Bobby Berkstresser

All public sector reappointments were approved unanimously. Two private sector board members, Bobby Berkstresser (Rockbridge, County) and Neal Menafee (Rockingham, County) will be leaving the SVP Board. Requests were made for Board recommendations to fill these vacancies, along with the Page County private sector vacancy from January 2017.

Appointments:

Devon Anders was appointed unanimously by the Board to fill the open Board of Directors seat for Rockingham County.

GO Virginia Update – Carrie Chenery

Executive Director Carrie Chenery updated the Board on GO Virginia, which is progressing in Region 8 in the Shenandoah Valley. The Region 8 Council held a council meeting on July 18th at the BRITE facility in Fishersville, VA, where Camoin Associates introduced their team and an outline of their strategy for the Growth & Diversification Plan. The next meeting will be held August 18th in Lexington, VA to discuss the completed EG&D Plan with the Region 8 Council for comment prior to submission, due August 25th.

SVP Staff Update – Carrie Chenery & SVP Staff

Executive Director Chenery asked SVP Staff to provide a brief overview of roles and responsibilities to the Board. Director Chenery informed the Board that an interim Executive Director will not be put in place during her leave of absence from the SVP, and all daily activities will be handled by Staff.

In addition, Director Chenery announced that the SVP will relocate to a new JMU facility in August, 2017 due to growth in the Outreach & Engagement staff. Board member, Dr. Melissa Lubin explained the need for

additional office space for O&E and that appropriate accommodations had been procured at 220 University Boulevard to house the SVP staff and offices.

Board of Directors Roundtable

Board members were given the opportunity to share highlights and events in their localities and provide business sector updates.

Upcoming Events

- September 14, 2017 – Fall Connect Event at Basic City Brewing; 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- September 14 – 15, 2017 – Shenandoah Valley Familiarization Tour for VEDP Staff
- October 20, 2017 – Fall Economic Development Forum, Massanutten Resort; 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- October 20, 2017 – Board of Directors Meeting, Massanutten Resort; 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Executive Director Chenery adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

APPENDIX B							
CEDS Committee Membership							
July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018							
Representative	Locality					Occupation	Representing
		Elected Official	Citizen	Urban	Rural		
CENTRAL SHENANDOAH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION							
Kelley, Terry	Augusta County	X			X	Business	Local Government
Moran, Vickie			X		X	State Employee	Local Government
Pattie, Marshall		X			X	University Professor	Local Government
Tate, Leslie			X		X	County Planner	Local Government
Hicklin, Edward	Bath County	X			X	Business	Local Government
Wagner, Kevin*	Highland County	X			X	Postmaster	Local Government
Slaydon, Chris	Rockbridge County		X		X	Assistant Planning Director	Local Government
Lewis, A.W. Buster		X			X	Business	Local Government
Overton, Ned	Rockingham County	X			X	Retired Fire Chief	Local Government
William Kyger		X			X	Teacher	Local Government
Armstrong, Casey*			X		X	Community Development Director	Local Government
Sandum, Kim			X		X	Nonprofit Executive Director	Local Government
Petrie, Tim	City of Buena Vista	X		X		Environmental Planner	Local Government
George Hirschmann	City of Harrisonburg	X		X		Retired Weatherman	Local Government
Byrd, Ted*		X		X		Farm Manager	Local Government
Fletcher, Adam			X	X		Community Dev Director	Local Government
Friedman, Frank*	City of Lexington	X		X		Banking	Local Government
Angle, Sharon	City of Staunton		X	X		Planning Director	Local Government
Dull, Carolyn W.*		X		X		Retired Accountant	Local Government
Johnson, Rusty	City of Waynesboro		X	X		Retired Business	Local Government
Freeman, Jeff*		X		X		Retired Sports Referee	Local Government
SHENANDOAH VALLEY PARTNERSHIP							
Polk, Bradley	Public Sector		X		X	Community Development Director	Shenandoah County
Brown, Brian			X	X		Economic Development Director	City of Buena Vista
Bragg, Carolyn		X			X	Board of Supervisors	Augusta County
Simon, Noah			X	X		City Manager	City of Lexington
Crickenberger, Sam			X		X	Community Development Director	Rockbridge County
Hitchin, Greg			X	X		Economic Development Director	City of Waynesboro
Riedesel, Bonnie			X	X		Executive Director	Central Shenandoah PDC
Collins, Claire		X			X	Board of Supervisors	Bath County
Sullenberger, Robin		X			X	Board of Supervisors	Highland County
Lubin, Dr. Melissa			X	X		Associate Vice Provost of Outreach & Engagement	James Madison University
Shull, Brian			X	X		Economic Development Director	City of Harrisonburg
Stroupe, Mark		X		X		Board of Supervisors	Page County
Anas, George			X		X	Economic Development Director	Rockingham County
Vaughn, Billy			X	X		Economic Development Director	City of Staunton
Harvill, Chip	Private Sector		X	X		Vice President	Cadence
Biller, Tony			X	X		President/CEO	Nielsen Builders, Inc.
Berkstresser, Bobby			X	X		President	Whites & Lee-Hi Travel Centers
Campbell, Greg			X		X	Manger	Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport
Downey, Dr. John			X		X	President	Blue Ridge Community College
Reviea, Dr. Linda			X	X		Retired Superintendent	Staunton City Schools
Menefee, Neal			X	X		President/CEO	The Rockingham Group
Lilly, Scot			X		X	Relationship Manager	Farm Credit of the Virginias
Kyle, Chris			X		X	VP, Industry Relations & Regulatory	Shentel
Toms, Emmett			X	X		Manager External Affairs	Dominion Virginia Power
Hendricks, Charles			X	X		Principal	The Gaines Group
Godsey, Greg			X	X		Senior Vice President	Union Bank & Trust
May, Keith			X	X		Owner/Broker	Cottonwood Commercial Realty
Vacant							
Note: CSPDC Charter requires a majority of board members be elected officials.							
*Denotes CSPDC Economic Development Committee							
Riedesel, Bonnie, CSPDC Staff							
McCarty, Elizabeth, CSPDC Staff							
Carrie Chenery, SVP Staff							
Robinson, Courtland, SVP Staff							
Blackwell, Tish, SVP Staff							
Jen Weaver, SVP Staff							

APPENDIX C
Key Regional Strategic Initiatives
Stakeholder List

Central Shenandoah Planning District
Commission (CSPDC)
Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP)

Rockingham County Board of Supervisors
Harrisonburg City Council
Augusta County Board of Supervisors
Staunton City Council
Waynesboro City Council
Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors
Buena Vista City Council
Lexington City Council
Bath County Board of Supervisors
Highland County Board of Supervisors

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of
Commerce
Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce
Lexington-Rockbridge Chamber of
Commerce
Buena Vista Chamber of Commerce
Bath County Chamber of Commerce
Highland County Chamber of Commerce
Broadway-Timberville Chamber of
Commerce

Harrisonburg Industrial Development
Authority
Rockingham County IDA
Augusta County Industrial Development
Authority
Staunton Industrial Development Authority
Waynesboro Industrial Development
Authority
Rockbridge Regional IDA

Blue Ridge Community College
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
James Madison University
Eastern Mennonite University
Bridgewater College
Mary Baldwin College

School Board – Rockingham County
School Board – City of Harrisonburg
School Board – Augusta County
School Board – City of Staunton
School Board – City of Waynesboro
School Board – Rockbridge County

School Board – City of Lexington
School Board – Bath County
School Board – Highland County

Rockingham County Planning Commission
Harrisonburg Planning Commission
Augusta County Planning Commission
Staunton Planning Commission
Waynesboro Planning Commission
Rockbridge County Planning Commission
Buena Vista Planning Commission
Lexington Planning Commission
Bath County Planning Commission
Highland County Planning Commission

Shenandoah Valley Technology Council
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Investment
Board
Shenandoah Valley Small Business
Development Center
The Rockbridge Partnership
The Highland Center

Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport
Commission

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation
Valley Conservation Council

Rockingham County Farm Bureau
Augusta County Farm Bureau

Community Association for Rural
Transportation

Augusta County Service Authority
Rockbridge County Public Service
Authority

Valiance Health, LLC (Hospitals)
Highland Medical Center

Valley Community Services Board
Rockbridge Area Community Services
Board
Harrisonburg Office on Children and Youth
Bath County Social Services
Valley Program for Aging Services