

# CRC'S OCTOBER 2024 ITEMS OF INTEREST

## Grant Assistance:

- Congratulations to the Town of Victoria on being awarded \$240,000 from the Virginia Outdoor Foundation's Preservation Trust Fund for the Modest Creek Transformation.
- VDACS, AFID Planning Grant: CRC assisted Cumberland County with a grant application to partially fund the development of an Agricultural Economic Development Plan.
- DHR, VA250: The CRC assisted the Town of Blackstone with submitting the full application to purchase decorative light poles, a monument sign, and curb and gutter. In addition, the town would also construct a concrete walking pad for entry to building, sidewalk, and a parking lot.
- VDACS, AFID Infrastructure Grant: The CRC is assisting Cumberland County with a grant application for Farmer's market amenities.

## Project Updates:

- Lunenburg/Victoria/Kenbridge Joint Comprehensive Plan Update: CRC staff attended a work session on Oct. 3rd. At this meeting staff reviewed revised Land Use and Special Policy areas sections and the Demographic section. CRC staff set up and attended a virtual meeting to discuss the final revisions to Land Use and Special Policy section.

## Rain Barrel Workshop held in Nottoway County High School

The CRC partnered with the Nottoway County Virginia Cooperative Extension office and the Nottoway County High School Agriculture Department to incorporate stormwater education and a Rain Barrel Workshop series into the curriculum of two agriculture classes in Nottoway County High School. Both classes have an estimated 20 students that participated in the third and fourth stormwater education workshops.



The CRC is serving as the consultant and has eight months to complete the regional broadband affordability and adoption plan. CRC staff developed a google form, flyer, and QR code for the survey and are in the process of distributing them throughout the region. To access the survey, please use the QR code above.

The CRC has also set up and advertised community meeting locations in all seven counties. The CRC hosted the first community meeting in Charlotte County on October 28th. Below is the schedule for the remaining community meetings:

- 11/4/24 at 6pm at 511 E. 5th Ave, Kenbridge, VA
- 11/6/24 at 6pm at 318 Church St., Blackstone, VA
- 11/12/24 at 6pm at 225 Industrial Park Dr., Farmville, VA
- 11/13/24 at 6pm at 16268 N. James Madison Hwy, Dillwyn, VA
- 11/14/24 at 6pm at 15 School Rd., Cumberland, VA
- 11/18/24 at 6pm at 16351 Dunn St., Amelia Courthouse, VA

## Amelia Modified Comprehensive Plan Update

CRC staff attended a kick-off meeting with the Planning Committee to review the draft timeline, draft survey instrument, discuss distribution points, and set a timeline for distribution. At this meeting, the committee selected to open the survey up on October 28th and close the survey on December 15th. CRC and County staff are in the process of distributing the survey to certain distribution points. To access the survey, please use the QR code that is located to the left.



## CRC staff attended the Governor's Summit on Rural Prosperity

One of the CRC staff members attended the Governor's Summit on Rural Prosperity. During this conference, staff attended a downtown walking tour to learn about Wytheville's Downtown Streetscape Improvement project. Staff learned about required pre-planning activities, funding streams, and creative ways to reinvent underutilized spaces within a rural downtown.

Staff also attended conference sections about Rural Virginia Opportunity dashboard that will be available 2025 that will bring together clear, Data-Driven Insights and Opportunities, Accessible Funding Opportunities along with Rural Strengths and Assets with downloadable reports of trending data for counties and city level reporting.

## CRC staff attended NADO's Annual Training Conference



Two CRC staff members attended NADO's Annual Training Conference. Staff attended a mobile workshop to learn about the redevelopment of Brownfield sites, funding streams used to revitalize these buildings, and the importance of public-private partnerships. Staff also attended a mobile workshop on the Lafitte Greenway, a 2.6-mile-long linear park and multi-use trail in the heart of New Orleans, that features recreational facilities, fitness and cultural programming.

Staff also attended sections on the importance of climate resiliency plans, learned about new software to assist with Planning activities, planning tips for CEDS development, and learned about new funding streams for projects.

## Upcoming Funding Opportunities:

VDACS AFID Planning Grant: Open; Rolling Basis

VDOF, Virginia Trees for Clean Water: Open - Rolling Basis

DHCD, Affordable and Special Needs Housing (ASNH): Open

DHCD, Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD): Letter of Intent open - closes on 11/30/24

EDA, 2023 Disaster Supplemental: Open; Rolling Basis

EDA, 2023 PWEA: Open; Rolling Basis

VHSIP, Local Systemic Grant: Opens on 10/31/24

The CRC provides free grant writing services for member localities and local 501C3 non-profits.