

Update

March 9, 2007

The newsletter of the
Virginia Municipal League

Inside ...

1-12



*Other issues decided
as 2007 session grinds
to a close*

*House, Senate OK
budget conference
report*

*Education budget
information released*

*Corrected interim
valuation reports sent
to localities*

*Community festivals
to be listed in Virginia
Town & City*

*Achievement Award
packets en route*

2007 General Assembly

House, Senate compromise on transportation/land-use bill

The last day of the 2007 General Assembly session produced a long-awaited bill that dedicates substantial funding for transportation. The final version of HB 3202 (Howell) was worked out among the members of a conference committee before it easily passed the House 64-34 and then squeaked by the Senate 21-18. The ball is now in Gov. Tim Kaine's court. Kaine has the constitutional responsibility of reviewing and acting upon legislation adopted by the legislature.

The bill does include significant funding for transportation – a long-documented critical need in Virginia. Local governments, however, are disturbed over the source of the dedicated funding in the legislation. While some of the money would come from new sources (increases in abusive driver fees, truck related charges

and new vehicle registration fees), much of it would come from the state's general fund. About \$180 million from the general fund will be used for annual debt payments, and another \$150 million a year will be transferred from the general fund (the dedication of one-third of the insurance premiums) for road construction.

The bill also addresses land use. It does not include the so-called "devolution" provision, so counties will not be required to take over the responsibility for new subdivision streets.

In addition to the land use and state-wide funding provisions, the package includes regional funding plans for Hampton Roads and for Northern Virginia. A series of new regional taxes and fees, including a gas tax, could produce about \$200 million



Continued on page 2

VDOT to hold land-use workshops

The Virginia Department of Transportation will hold information sessions in three of its districts about new regulations that establish uniform statewide standards for traffic impact analyses for land-use proposals that will substantially affect the state-controlled transportation network.

The intent of the regulations is to improve the coordination between land-use and transportation planning decisions by providing information to local government officials and citizens.

Implementation of the regulations will begin July 1 in VDOT's Northern Virginia, Richmond and Salem districts. Implementation in VDOT's Fredericksburg,

Culpeper and Staunton districts will start Jan. 1, 2008 and in the Hampton Roads, Lynchburg and Bristol districts on July 1, 2008.

The information sessions are for those in local municipal and county government, planning, and the transportation and development industries who will be involved in the land development process and would benefit from an overview of the regulations and their implementation. Detailed training sessions for those directly involved with the implementation of the regulations will be held later this year.

Details about the regulations, the draft guidelines for traffic analysis, implementa-

Continued on page 3

FROM THE CAPITOL

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2007

Transportation/land use bill continued ...

annually for Hampton Roads, and more than \$425 million a year in Northern Virginia. Local officials in the two regions will have to grapple with whether or not they want to levy these new regional taxes and fees to produce the revenue.

What HB 3202 does: Statewide transportation funding

HB 3202 provides up to \$180 million a year in general funds to retire existing transportation debt and issue new project debt totaling \$2.5 billion. Bonds would be paid back over a 20-year period, and would support road, transit and rail projects. In addition, up to \$200 million in new user fees would go highway maintenance. The new fees include additional: \$31.2 million in truck related charges (registration and weight enforced fines); \$62.4 million in a new vehicle registration fee; and up to \$80 million in abusive driver fees.

Transportation is only dealt with every 20 years or so as a major initiative. If this continues to be the case, it is important that whatever is enacted be as comprehensive a package as possible. This package does not address either maintenance of highways, which is falling behind, or mass transit. VDOT currently is transferring \$450 million a year from construction to support maintenance, cutting into money for new roads and expansion projects. HB 3202 does not solve this problem.

Why the opposition to dedicating general funds for transportation?

Local governments are very concerned about using the general fund for transportation, because of the many other important services that must be funded through general revenues. Arguments against dedicating general funds for transportation often fell on deaf ears during the legislative session, with many legislators pointing to the current revenue surplus.

Reasons for concern are:

- Current surpluses mask the reality that the general fund has finite revenues that must fund an array of

necessary services. We have decades of experience showing that general fund surpluses are followed by general fund shortages. This happened in the early 1990s and the early part of the current decade.

- The general fund must provide the funding for certain services because they cannot be funded through user fees: education, public safety, health and mental health services. Therefore, those services that can be funded through user fees (like gas taxes to fund transportation) must be funded that way in order to keep general taxes at moderate levels.

- The state's 2008-2010 biennial budget will be prepared later this year for adoption by the 2008 General Assembly. Local governments have many outstanding needs that the budget must address, primary of which is the re-benchmarking of the state's constitutional requirements for educational Standards of Quality (SOQ). Re-benchmarking is the way that the state re-adjusts its payments to localities for K-12 education by looking at the actual costs localities bear for providing public schools. It reflects existing local spending. Early estimates are that the additional costs for this biennial adjustment will be about \$1.3 billion to \$1.5 billion. Without the state funding of re-benchmarking, localities will continue to fund a growing, disproportionate share of the costs of education, primarily through the real estate tax. Having a new major funding demand in the general fund adds pressure to the other services that must be paid for through general revenues.

Key land use provisions of HB 3202

Local subdivision streets

The state will continue to maintain all new subdivision roads that meet VDOT's new secondary street standards. The bill, however, requires VDOT to adopt regulations for new subdivision street standards in the next year. VML and VACo will participate in that process. Additionally, the bill requires VDOT by Jan. 1, 2009, to re-assign roads based upon functional clas-

sifications (as opposed to the current administrative classification method). The results of these two reviews may alter the present maintenance and funding responsibilities.

Urban Development Areas (UDA)

Only those counties located in the Northern Virginia, Richmond-Petersburg, and Winchester Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) with a 15 percent or more population growth rate (from one 10-year census to the next) and a population of at least 20,000 must include one or more UDA in their comprehensive plan. (Affects Caroline, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Frederick, Hanover, Henrico, Loudoun, Louisa, Powhatan, Prince George, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Stafford and Warren counties.) The UDA provisions require these counties to establish higher density areas in their comprehensive plans to accommodate growth for twenty years.

Urban Transportation Service Districts (UTSD)

- Only authorized for counties with a population of more than 90,000 in 2000 that do not currently maintain their own roads. (Affects Chesterfield, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William, Spotsylvania and Stafford counties.)

- Counties that establish a UTSD likely will be required to assume maintenance of subdivision streets within the service district. It is unclear, however, the extent to which maintenance responsibility must be taken over by the county.

- An additional state maintenance payment is proposed for those counties that assume new transportation responsibilities. All told, if all counties join, the impact on the existing maintenance payment pool of money could be over \$50 million a year.

- There is no new funding for UTSD maintenance funding, so the funding may come from the pot of money currently shared by cities, towns, Arlington and Henrico.

- Counties may impose an additional real estate tax within the UTSD to pay for road maintenance and construction.

FROM THE CAPITOL**GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2007****Transportation/land use bill continued ...**

Only those counties that establish UTSD will have broad impact fee authority for most public services. However, the impact fees may be imposed only outside of the district. Further restrictions make the impact fees applicable only in areas with "stale" residential zoning in agricultural districts that are being subdivided for by-right residential development.

Regional proposals

The Northern Virginia regional package would allow localities to impose all of the following taxes and fees

for transportation, including a commercial real estate tax (25 cents), a grantor's tax (40 cents), a motor vehicle rental tax (2 percent), an initial driver's license fee (\$100), and an increase in the transient occupancy (lodging) tax (2 percent).

Most of the funding would go into the existing Northern Virginia Transportation Authority and would be used for regional transportation projects. A locality may not receive a direct allocation from the authority funds unless it has levied all of the taxes and fees.

The Hampton Roads regional package would allow for the creation of a

Hampton Roads Transportation Authority, once affirmative action is taken by seven localities. The taxes and fees that would be granted to the localities (for their action) to fund the authority include: a commercial real estate tax (10 cents), grantor's tax (40 cents), motor vehicle rental tax (2 percent), driver's license increase (\$10), first time vehicle registration (1 percent), sales tax on auto repairs (5 percent), retail gas tax (2 percent), vehicle registration fee (\$10) and vehicle inspection fee (\$10).

EDITOR'S NOTE: See related story on other issues, page 4. ❖

VDOT workshops continued ...

tion schedule and more can be found at www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/chapter527/.

Please plan to attend the information session most convenient to your location and schedule. The first information sessions are as follows:

March 12 – Northern Virginia District information session #1

9 a.m.-noon – Prince William County Board Room
James J. McCoart Administration Building
1 County Complex
Woodbridge
<http://www.pwcgov.org/default.aspx?topic=010011001170001675#4>

March 12 – Northern Virginia District information session #2

2 p.m.-5 p.m. – Fairfax County South Government Center
8350 Richmond Highway
Alexandria
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/maps/locatSouthCoCenterMap.htm>

March 13 – Northern Virginia District information session #3

10 a.m.-1 p.m. – Loudoun County Government Center Board Room
1 Harrison St., S.E.
Leesburg
www.loudoun.gov/maps/direct/cgc.htm

March 20 – Salem District information session #1

2 p.m.-5 p.m. – W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center
Smith Mountain Lake
Taubman Conference Center
775 Hermitage Road
Wirtz
www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/smithmt/facilities/

March 21 – Salem District information session #2

9 a.m.-noon – New River Valley Community College
Rooker Hall, Richardson Auditorium
5251 College Drive
Dublin
www2.nr.edu/maps/

March 28 – Richmond District information sessions #1

9 a.m.-noon – Board of Supervisors Board Room
Hanover County Administration Building
7516 County Complex Road
Hanover
www.co.hanover.va.us/maps2.htm

March 28 – Richmond District information sessions #2

2 p.m.-5 p.m. – Union Train Station
103 River St. (Olde Town area)
Petersburg
www.studioammons.com/portfolio/p_special/ps_pmap/PburgTourMap.pdf

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FROM THE CAPITOL

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2007

Other issues decided as 2007 session grinds to a close

A handful of issues of special interest to local governments, including eminent domain, were decided in the final days of the 2007 General Assembly. A detailed *Legislative Report* on all of the legislation of interest to local governments will be completed in about three weeks.

Here is a summary of some of the issues decided in the last few days of the session:

Eminent domain bill severely restricts redevelopment projects

The Senate and House voted overwhelmingly in favor of eminent domain legislation that rewrites the rules for all entities that with the power to condemn land.

The conference version of the three bills -- HB 2954 (Bell, Albemarle), SB 781 (Cuccinelli, Fairfax) and SB 1296 (Norment, James City) restricts condemnation authority over blighted property to require the structure be beyond repair or unfit for habitation or use. For blight condemnation of unimproved land, it must be vacant and must constitute a public nuisance.

This definition is much stricter than existing law in Title 36, the authority for housing and redevelopment authorities. The new law does exempt from the definition any property in a redevelopment or conservation plan that was filed prior to Jan. 1, 2007, so long as the property is acquired by July 1, 2010, thus giving a three-year window to acquire properties as a part of an existing plan.

The new law also adds gas, electric, water, sewer or telephone operations of cities, towns and other public agencies to a list of purposes for which land may be condemned. This is a technical amendment to assist city-operated gas and electric systems.

Due to the lopsided vote, it will be difficult for the governor to achieve any useful amendments to the bills to enable redevelopment authorities to carry out their jobs. Therefore, local governments will be critically limited in their ability to clear blight in declining neighborhoods.

Enhanced retirement benefits for deputies enacted

Both houses approved legislation that will require about 40 cities and counties to grant enhanced retirement benefits to sheriffs' deputies under the Law Enforcement Officers Retirement System beginning July 1, 2008.

The costs of the enhanced benefits in SB 1166 (Stolle, Virginia Beach) will be phased in over five years beginning in 2008, under a schedule to be developed by the Virginia Retirement System. While the cities and counties that already extend sheriffs' deputies enhanced retirement benefits under LEOS are not affected by this new mandate, all localities are affected by another section of the bill, which gives localities the option of the retirement multiplier for its public safety officers to 1.85 percent (from the current 1.70 percent).

The bill also sets that higher rate for state police. Public safety officers undoubtedly will lobby their councils and boards to adopt this higher retirement multiplier.

Unlike the original version of this bill, as well as budget amendments proposed by Gov. Tim Kaine and in the Senate version of the budget, there is no additional state funding to pay a portion of the costs of participating in LEOS. Instead, the cost for these benefits will be borne by localities and will be reimbursed to some extent by the Compensation Board, according to the same process in place for reimbursement of some of the retirement costs for constitutional officers and their employees.

Currently, the Compensation Board bases its payments on the lower of either the local retirement contribution rate, or the state retirement contribution rate.

Health insurance credit for teachers approved

The General Assembly waited until Saturday to approve legislation raising the health care credit for retired teachers. HB 2370 (Tata, Virginia Beach) and SB 1218 raise the credit for retired teachers from the current \$2.50 a month for each year of service to \$4 a month. In addition, the bills remove the cap (currently \$75) on the maximum size of the monthly credit and instead limit the credit to the \$4 for each year of service multiplied by the smaller of (i) twice the amount of creditable service or (ii) the amount of creditable service.

This increased credit will cost local governments \$18.6 million in FY08, with the cost being reflected in 0.46 percent higher teacher retiree contribution rate.

Touch screen voting equipment issue settled

Localities will be prohibited from purchasing direct electronic recording (DRE) voting machines after July 1, 2007 under HB 2707 (Hugo, Fairfax) and SB 840 (Devolites Davis, Fairfax). DREs are the touch screen voting machines in use in most localities in the state.

The bills also authorize the State Board of Elections to determine the allocation to cities and counties of any federal or state funds made available to implement the act. The General Assembly removed language in HB 2707 that would have required an automatic retabulation of optical scan voting machines in elections in which the undercount in a particular race was large enough to affect the outcome of the election.

EDITOR'S NOTE: See related story on budget amendments, page 5. ❖



FROM THE CAPITOL

House, Senate OK budget conference report

With no debate or dissension, the House and Senate approved the budget conference report on the final day of the 2007 session. The conference report amends the state's 2006-2008 budget. It incorporates some of the items introduced by Gov. Tim Kaine in December, as well as items proposed by members of the House of Delegates and Senate.

March 26 is the deadline for Kaine to submit amendments to the budget bill and other legislation passed during the session. VML will summarize the Kaine amendments in an upcoming *Legislative Bulletin*. The General Assembly will take up the amendments at the reconvened or "veto" session on April 4.

VML published a report on budget items of interest to local governments

in a *Legislative Bulletin* dated Feb. 28. It included the amendments submitted by Kaine and approved by the General Assembly, as well as the amendments approved in the conference report.

Some of the highlights included:

- Additional funding to the HB 599 program to "hold harmless" local governments that otherwise would lose funding under the existing statutory formula. This additional \$1.1 million was added to the \$1.2 million in the introduced budget. The proposed 60/40 distribution in the proposed budget, where 40 percent of the new funding would have been distributed on the basis of violent crime data, was eliminated.

- No changes in ABC or liter tax distributions.

- 4 percent salary increase, effective

Dec. 1, for state-supported local employees

- 3 percent salary increase, effective Dec. 1, for teachers

- An additional \$11.9 million to pay the state share of the increase in teacher retiree health care credit. (The increase will cost local governments an additional \$18.6 million and will be reflected in FY08 retirement contribution rates.)

- An additional \$2.6 million to expand pre-school education for at-risk students not presently served.

You may also read the *Legislative Bulletin* detailing the budget amendments on-line at: <http://www.vml.org/VML-Restricted/07ACLB/LB022807b.html>.

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Education budget information released



The Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction has completed locality-specific details on the estimate of state payments – and required local shares – for direct aid to education.

Superintendent's Memorandum 1 is based on the budget revisions adopted by the General Assembly on the last day of the session, Feb. 24, and can be found at this Web address: <http://141.104.22.210/VDOE/suptsmemos/2007/reg001.html>.

Attachments to the memorandum include a narrative summary of the effects of the budget amendments on direct aid to education, as well as a table for each school division detailing state and required local share for the various education accounts.

Local budget officials will be able to use the information on "required local shares" in evaluating the budget request submitted by the school board. Most localities fund schools far beyond their required local minimum share.

As the state looks for ways to hold down the cost of "re-benchmarking" the education Standards of Quality, locali-

ties can expect more scrutiny of local education spending that exceeds the required local share.

The cost to re-benchmark reflects "prevailing practices," that is, what localities actually spend on education.

A state workgroup, made up of staff from the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Virginia Department of Education is scheduled to complete a review of the re-benchmarking process by September.

Local officials should not be surprised if the state comes up with some way of discounting a portion of what localities fund beyond their required local share in the re-benchmarking calculations. Legislators, particularly some on the House Appropriations Committee, increasingly comment that salary increases granted by local governments are driving up state costs for teacher retirement and for the re-benchmarking. The implication is that state costs are held hostage by local funding decisions, and that this needs to be changed. ❖

FROM THE CAPITOL

Corrected interim valuation reports sent to localities

The actuary for the Virginia Retirement System on Feb. 23 sent local government managers revised valuation reports for 2006, replacing valuation reports that were just mailed in January.

The liability for retired participants was understated in the January reports.

Those January reports contained good news for many political subdivisions, which saw an improvement in the financial status of their retirement systems.

The revised reports still show good news -- but a little less good for some local governments than was included in the January report.

The valuation reports for the second year of a biennium essentially are a snapshot of what rates would be for each individual political subdivision for the upcoming year, were the rates to change.

Retirement contribution rates for local governments, however, are only changed every other year. The rates in this revised valuation report, therefore, will not be put into play but are given to show each political jurisdiction the status of its retirement fund.

The revised valuation reports show that on average local systems are 95.6 percent funded (instead of the 98.4 percent funded in the original report).

Political subdivisions that have few or no retired participants will little change in the revised valuation results.

Older systems, however, with larger numbers of retired employees, may see a greater degree of change.

Overall, local systems are in a better financial position than the state employee or teacher pool. ❖

AT THE LEAGUE

Community festivals to be listed in Virginia Town & City

VML will publish a monthly listing of upcoming community festivals and special events in Virginia Town & City magazine beginning in April. All member local governments were sent a letter last month soliciting listings.

VML cannot run a listing of every festival in every community across the state. There are just too many of them. So ... please send us the information we are requesting for only the signature annual festival or special event in your community.

We need: The name of the event, the date(s), location, cost of admission (if any), and the contact information for more details, which may be a telephone number, e-mail address or Web site address, or all three.

For example, what you send us should look like this:

June 1-3, Uncle Billy's Day, English Park in Town of Altavista. Information: www.unclebillysday.com. Free admission.

or, for example:

Oct. 6-7, 34th Newport News Fall Festival of Folklife, Newport News Municipal Park, Newport News. Information: www.nnparks.com/festivals.php or (757) 926-1400 or festivals@nngov.com. Free admission / \$5 per car parking fee.

Send the information via e-mail to: festival@vml.org.

Questions? Contact David Parsons at dparsons@vml.org or (804) 523-8527. ❖

Achievement Award packets en route



VML mailed copies of the rules and instructions for entering its 2007 Achievement Awards competition on Tuesday, March 6. The information also is posted on the VML Web site at: <http://www.vml.org/WNEW/WNAW07.html>.

The awards program, which continues to encourage and recognize excellence and innovation in Virginia local government, is an important forum for sharing some of the very best public service ideas in Virginia. By sharing winning entries with the public, the league demonstrates that Virginia's local

governments are imaginative, highly professional and cost effective.

The winning entries will be featured in the September issue of Virginia Town & City magazine. Winners will be recognized and presented with their awards at a dinner during the 2007 VML Annual Conference in James City County on Tuesday, Oct. 16.

If you or your staff has questions about how to enter, please contact David Parsons at (804) 523-8527 or at dparsons@vml.org.

All entries must be postmarked by Thursday, May 31, 2007. ❖

ETCETERA

Corps of Engineers to conduct public 'conversation'

Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock, commander and chief of engineers for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will share his perspective on challenges confronting Virginia's coastal areas at the College of William & Mary on March 27. Mark Sudol, regulatory chief, who will discuss recent wetland issues, will accompany him.

The event, which will be held in the Commonwealth Auditorium located in the University Center from 10:30 a.m. until noon, is free and open to the public.

Because of space limitations, however, reservations are required. To reserve a seat, contact Susan Maples at 804/684-7846 or reserve online at: <http://tethys.vims.edu/events/registration.cfm>.

The Center of Coastal Resources Management at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science is sponsoring the event. For additional information, contact Kirk Havens at 804/684-7386.

Directions: <http://www.wm.edu/about/directions.php> (building #86 on the Campus Map). ❖

POSITIONS

Longer version of job ads posted at www.vml.org

Because of the number of requests it receives to publish job advertisements, VML reduces the length of the position descriptions in Update. A full version of all of the job listings published here for the past two months appears on VML's Web site at www.vml.org. Visit the VML site and click on "Marketplace" to read the complete descriptions.

Director of Planning and Development, Fluvanna County

SALARY: DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Reports directly to the county administrator; provides leadership and direction to staff of five. Plan, organize, direct and control all activities of the Planning Department, including developing and implementing policies, procedures and practices to accomplish county land-use planning activities. Responsible for the preparation, development and implementation of the comprehensive plan and is the professional adviser to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. Reqs. bachelor's degree with 5-7 yrs. increasingly responsible experience in local government planning, including at least 2 yrs. supervisory or major project management experience. Reqs. MS Office proficiency. Prefer AICP certification and working knowledge of GIS technologies. Submit resume, state application (www.co.fluvanna.va.us), with cover letter stating salary expectations: Fluvanna County Human Resources, PO Box 540, Palmyra, VA 22963. Deadline: March 23. EOE.

Information Technology Programmer Analyst, Campbell County

SALARY: \$31,881-\$35,523 start range DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Provides support for applications, including SQL Server 2000/2005, .NET, RPG IV, DB2 and relational databases on the Windows and iSeries platforms. Responsible for developing, implementing and supporting Web and client-server based applications. Reqs. associate's degree in related field with min. 2 yrs. exper. For application, call 434/332-9818 or write P.O. Box 100, Rustburg, VA 24588 or log-on to www.co.campbell.va.us. Open until filled. EOE.

Information Technology Integration Specialist, Campbell County

SALARY: \$38,754-\$43,180 start range DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Primarily focuses on integration of distributed systems and applications. Responsible for planning, coordinating and overseeing activities related to integration of Windows and iSeries software programs and applications. Support Windows technologies, including SQL Server 2000/2005, Microsoft Sharepoint Server 2007, IIS and .NET. Reqs. bachelor's degree in related field with min. 5 yrs. exper. For county application, call 434/332-9818 or write P.O. Box 100, Rustburg, VA 24588 or log-on to www.co.campbell.va.us. Open until filled. EOE.

Fiscal Officer (part-time), Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

SALARY: DOQ/DOE. Twenty hrs. per week. Prepare and maintain routine accounting records that involve application of bookkeeping principles and methods; other related work: 1) Posts to general or specific books of account, including cash

receipt journal, payroll register, allotment and expenditure ledger, program ledger, or revenue ledger; 2) Prepares routine, recurring reports reflecting status of accounts; 3) Reviews vouchers, invoices, and other claims for payment. Quick-Book Pro exper. req. Submit resume and 3 professional references to: Ray Griffin, Executive Director, Central Shenandoah PDC, 112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401 or via e-mail to rita@csppdc.org. Open until filled. EOE.

Budget & Management Analyst, Chesterfield County

SALARY: DOE (+) benefits. Function as financial / management consultant to assigned depts. to improve operational effectiveness and efficiency. Assist in developing operating / capital improvement bldgt. functions. Provide research and support to Board of Supervisors and county administration. Reqs. bachelor's degree (master's preferred) in public / business admin., finance or related field; 3 yrs. budgeting / municipal finance exper.; or equiv. comb. Visit careers.chesterfield.gov to view instructions and to complete and submit application. County application must be submitted online by 5 p.m. 804/748-1551. Req. #07-155. Deadline: April 5. EOE.

City Engineer, Colonial Heights

SALARY: DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. (pop. 18,000) Lead Engineering Department of full-service city. Responsible for planning, organizing, directing and supervising the Engineering Dept. and Traffic Engineering Section; providing technical engineering services for city infrastructure, advancement of capital improvement project program and GIS; reviewing plans for proposed construction and improve-

Continued on page 8

POSITIONS

ment projects; monitoring the work of consultants and outside contractors. Reqs. relevant bachelor's degree and 10 yrs. progressively responsible engineering exper., registration as P.E. Submit resume and 5 work-related references to: Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 3401, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. Visit the City's website at www.colonial-heights.com. Deadline: April 30. EOE.

Communications Manager, Fairfax County Economic Development Authority

SALARY: \$55,000-\$65,000 DOE. Duties include writing articles, online newsletters and press releases; planning and overseeing publications; tracking media placements; overseeing content on Web site; and assisting in development and execution of communications strategies. Prefer 4-6 yrs. exper. in PR. MS Office skills, proficiency in Dreamweaver and HTML required. Submit resume with cover letter as attachment via e-mail to FCEDA HR Department. No phone calls. Deadline: March 30 (noon). EOE.

Deputy Director of Public Works, Manassas Park

SALARY: \$56,565-\$87,676 DOQ (+) benefits. (pop. 13,500) Assist public works director in: directing divisions (Streets, City Garage, Buildings and Grounds, Water and Sewer, Inflow and Infiltration); overseeing city maintenance and capital projects; bdgt. forecasting and monitoring, dept. procurement and vendor relations. Assist in managing appx. 24 personnel and \$17 million bdgt. Reqs. min. 2 yrs. highly responsible exper. Preference given to candidates with relevant bachelor's degree. Application, cover letter and resume received by mail only, addressed to: Director of Public Works, 1 Park Center Court, Manassas Park, VA. 20111. Obtain application online at www.cityofmanassaspark.us or call 703/530-0393. Position posted through March 16. Open until filled. EOE.

Police Officer(s) I, Leesburg

SALARY: \$43,033-\$71,004. Reqs. H.S./GED and age 21 at time of appointment; U.S. citizenship; valid driver's license; good character, good physical condition, and must successfully complete all phases of hiring process, including polygraph, physical agility, medical and psychological examinations. Prefer Va. Law Enforcement Certification, criminal justice degree, or combination of education and

experience of modern police practices and methods. Town employment application req. See www.leesburgva.gov or request application from HR Dept. at 703/737-7177. Resumes submitted as supplemental info. only. Mail application to: Town of Leesburg, HR Dept., 25 W. Market St., Leesburg, VA 20176. Deadline: March 30. EOE.

Parks Supervisor, South Hill

SALARY: \$30,000-\$35,000 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Hands-on position with direct responsibilities for care and management of multiple sports fields, parks and facilities, as well as other town outdoor areas. Reqs. certification in landscaping and irrigation technology and 4 yrs. sports turf mngmnt. exper. or BS/AA in related discipline and 2 yrs. sports turf mngmnt. exper. Submit letter of application, detailed resume with salary and 3 professional references to: Julie Hancock, HR Manager, Town of South Hill, 211 S Mecklenburg Ave, South Hill VA 23970; fax 434-447-5064 or e-mail: jhancock@southhillva.org. Deadline: April 13. EOE.

Solid Waste Director, Region 2000 Services Authority

SALARY: \$80,000-\$95,000 start range DOQ (+) benefits, including VRS. New Region 2000 Services Authority will operate and manage solid waste operations within the counties of Amherst, Campbell and Nelson, and the cities of Bedford and Lynchburg. Responsible for development of strategic plan for the solid waste program, negotiation of contracts, recruitment of key personnel, development of budget and necessary financing for a July 2008 implementation date. Prefer master's degree and P.E. license and 7 yrs. exper. in solid waste and landfill mngmnt. or equiv. comb. of educ. and local govt. or regional solid waste exper. Info., application and job description available at www.region2000.org/lgc. Send resume to "Solid Waste Director," Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council, 915 Main St., Suite 202 Lynchburg, VA 24504 or mgilley@region2000.org. Application review begins April 30. Open until filled. EOE.

Planner/Zoning Officer, Buena Vista

SALARY: \$34,000-\$42,000 DOE/DOQ (+) benefits. Perform subdivision, site plan and zoning reviews for compliance with ordinances, regulations, policies and design criteria pertaining to land use, zoning, landscaping and design issues; enforce land use ordinances and environmental codes;

assist in designs for parks, streetscapes, landscapes and other municipal projects; assist in updating land-use regs.; provide planning recommendations and reports. Reqs. bachelor's degree (AICP preferred) with major course work in traditional land-use planning and min. 1 yr. exper. Submit resume to City of Buena Vista, ATTN: Community Development; 2039 Sycamore Avenue; Buena Vista VA 24416. Deadline: March 30. EOE.

Transit Director, Winchester

SALARY: DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. (pop. 25,000) Direct daily operations of 12-bus urban area system. Reqs. effective communication and computer skills and educ. and exper. equiv. to college degree or coursework in public or business admin., transportation, planning or related field with exper. in transit operations. Must have considerable exper. in administration of transit operations. Apply: Administration Department, Rouss City Hall, 15 N. Cameron St., Winchester, VA 22601. 540/667-1815 ext. 1449. TDD 540/722-0782. www.winchesterva.gov. Open until filled. EOE.

Deputy Director of Finance, Richmond

SALARY: \$78,613-\$122,400 DOQ (+) benefits. Assist with oversight and management of critical Finance Department operations. Oversee Controller's Office functions, including financial accounting, financial reporting, accounts payable and payroll, as well as revenue administration. Duties include: oversee preparation and submission of dept's \$8-plus million bdgt. and specific project bdgts.; monitor and control expenditures; assist CFO in implementing initiatives and directives. Reqs. relevant bachelor's degree plus 6 yrs. related exper. Prefer MBA, MPA or CPA and at least 4 yrs. supervisory exper. Residency requirement. Submit City of Richmond employment application to akshr@richmondgov.com or City of Richmond, Human Resources, Room 109, P.O. Box 26505, Richmond, VA 23261-6505. Position #25M00000114. Open until filled. EOE.

Director of Community Development, West Point

SALARY: \$40,000 more/less DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Prefer strong background indicating ability to develop and manage planning and zoning activities. Department head position responsible for:

Continued on page 9

POSITIONS

advising town council, town manager and appointed boards on land use related matters; serving as zoning administrator and subdivision agent; interpreting and enforcing compliance with the land use, environmental zoning, subdivision, wetlands and erosion and sediment control laws. ArcGis exper. preferred. Send town application, resume and 3 references to Trenton L. Funkhouser, Town Manager, P.O. Box 152, West Point, VA 23181. Call 804/843-3330 or see www.west-point.va.us for application. Open until filled. EOE.

Director, Zoning Evaluation Division, Fairfax County

SALARY: \$78,838-\$131,397 DOQ (+) benefits. Serves as member of Management Team of Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ). Directs the administration and operation of the Fairfax County's development review/zoning evaluation program. Manages division of appx. 37 positions responsible for processing appx. 500 rezoning, special exception/special permit and variance applications per year. Directs and manages the work of the Zoning Evaluation Division. Reqs. any comb. of educ., exper. and training equiv. to: graduation from college in a planning-related field and 6 yrs. increasingly responsible exper. within the specific area of assignment – long range planning, short range planning, and/or zoning. Prefer exper. with Va. planning and zoning enabling legislation; working with zoning ordinances in implementing comprehensive plans; negotiation of proffers; AICP membership. Apply online at www.fairfax-county.gov/jobs. Job # 07-0473. EOE.

Community Inspector/Codes Compliance Officer, Dumfries

SALARY: \$30,387-\$50,139 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Investigate violations and enforce zoning regs. and property maintenance code. Reqs. knowledge of zoning and building code enforcement. H.S. diploma, GED or equiv. req. with 3 yrs. of exper. in code enforcement or relevant associate's degree and equiv. of 1 yr. of exper. Send cover letter and resume to: John Shaw, Zoning Administrator, Town of Dumfries, P.O. Box 56, Dumfries, VA 22026. For complete job description, contact John Shaw at john.shaw@dumfriesvirginia.org. Open until filled. EOE.

Utility Director, Manassas

SALARY: Negotiable DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Ideal candidate is an industry leader

with excellent management experience to lead the planning and operation of the Utilities Department, including electric, water, sewer and other utility projects and programs. Appx. 100 staff and \$52 million annual operating and capital improvement bdtg. Reqs. proven record as utility manager, leader and innovator, including the ability to manage long-term planning and diverse operations, experience in financial management, contract negotiations and electric, water and sewer operations. Working knowledge of fiber-optic telecommunications desired. Min. 12 yrs. utility managerial exper., bachelor's degree in engineering and a certificate of registration as a P.E. Apply: Human Resources Department, 9027 Center St., Room 302, Manassas, VA 20110. FAX: 703/257-5827; hr@ci.manassas.va.us; www.manassascity.org. Open until filled. EOE.

Principal Planner, Goochland County

SALARY: \$49,690-\$74,722 (+) benefits. Undertake responsibilities and assignments related to the full range of project management in the Department of Community Development. Functions include management of the comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, subdivision ordinance and transportation planning. Must have thorough knowledge of zoning laws, codes, comprehensive plans, planning programs and processes. Reqs. master's degree in planning, landscape architecture or related field and extensive exper. in planning or an equiv. comb. of training and exper. Req. Goochland employment application available at 804/556-5831 and online at www.co.goochland.va.us. Submit to: Goochland County HR Office, 1800 Sandy Hook Road., P.O. Box 10, Goochland, VA 23063. For more info., call Donald L. Charles, director of community development, at 804/556-5861. E-mail: countyadmin@co.goochland.va.us. Deadline: 2 p.m. March 20. EOE.

Community Development Coordinator, Suffolk

SALARY: \$47,814-\$60,963 (midpoint). Grant funded position in the Management Services Dept. responsible for grant writing and administration of city's federal allocation from HUD for the CDBG and Home Programs. Desire program development exper. for community-based projects and relevant bachelor's degree plus 3-5 yrs. exper. in grant writing and administration; or any equiv. comb. of educ., training and exper. that provides the req. knowledge,

skills and abilities. Continuation of position is dependent upon grant renewal. Recent college graduates with relevant degree encouraged to apply. For application and more info., visit www.suffolk.va.us or call 757/923-2070. Open until filled. EOE.

Other positions

NOTICE: The following positions also are listed on VML's Web site at www.vml.org.

Town Manager, South Hill

SALARY: \$70,000-\$82,000 or more start range DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Deadline: March 23.

Assistant (COA) to Town Manager, Kilmarnock

SALARY DOQ/DOE. Opened until filled.

Wastewater Treatment Plant (Operator-in-Training), Kilmarnock

SALARY: \$26,000-\$31,000. Opened until filled.

Police / Public Safety Officers (FT / PT), Kilmarnock

SALARY: \$28,000-\$32,000 DOQ/DOE. Opened until filled.

Fellowship / Intern (PT / FT), Kilmarnock

SALARY: Negotiable. Opened until filled.

County Administrator, Prince Edward

SALARY: DOE (+) benefits. Deadline: March 16.

Human Resources Coordinator, Northampton County **SALARY: \$38,979-\$58,468 DOQ (+) benefits. Open until filled.**

Town Manager, Colonial Beach

SALARY: Negotiable DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Deadline: March 9.

Assistant Director Public Utilities/Works, Portsmouth

SALARY: \$62,193-\$83,961 DOQ (+) benefits. Deadline: April 13.

Continued on page 10

POSITIONS

Zoning Administrator, Pulaski County

SALARY: DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Open until filled.

Director of Housing & Neighborhood Services, Roanoke

SALARY: DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Open until filled.

Assistant City Manager for Community Development, Roanoke

SALARY: \$85,272-\$136,436 start range (+) benefits. Open until filled.

City Manager, Portsmouth

SALARY: DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Deadline: March 23.

Director of Public Works, Bristol (Va.)

SALARY: \$45,717-plus DOQ (+) benefits. Open until filled.

Director of Public Works, Fairfax

SALARY: \$82,654-\$128,244 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits.

Assistant City Manager (Chief Development Officer), Virginia Beach

SALARY: Low-mid \$100,000s DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Open until filled.

DEADLINE: The deadline for placing a job advertisement in the next issue of Update is Friday, March 16. Submit ads via e-mail to David Parsons at dparsons@vml.org. You may also submit via FAX at: 804/343-3758. VML publishes job advertisements at no cost to its local government members. Non-members are charged a flat rate of \$25 per ad per issue, which includes posting on VML's Web site and publication in Virginia Town & City (deadlines permitting). VML edits position descriptions in printed publications because of space limitations.

CALENDAR

NLC Congressional City Conference, March 10-14, Washington, D.C.

Location: D.C. Hilton Washington Hotel & Towers. See www.nlc.org.

Customer Service in the Public Sector, UVa Continuing Education Center (Richmond), March 14

One of the Second Wednesday Series of professional development classes sponsored by the Virginia Institute of Government. Classes are taught by learning consultants from Chesterfield County's Chesterfield University. Registration per class: \$75-\$100 (includes lunch for full-day seminars). Group discounts. Contact: Jessica Smith at 804/371-0202, e-mail jessicasmith@virginia.edu, or visit www.VaInstituteofGovernment.org.

Virginia Rural Water Association 19th Annual Technical Conference and Exposition, March 25-28, Roanoke

More than 60 classes and more than 100 vendors presenting their products at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center. For more information contact VRWA at 540/261-7178 or log-on to www.vrwa.org.

Love 'Em or Lose 'Em- Motivating & Retaining Employees, UVa Continuing Education Center (Richmond), April 11

One of the Second Wednesday Series of professional development classes sponsored by the Virginia Institute of Government. Classes are taught by learning consultants from Chesterfield County's Chesterfield University. Registration per class: \$75-\$100 (includes lunch for full-day seminars). Group discounts. Contact: Jessica Smith at 804/371-0202, e-mail jessicasmith@virginia.edu, or visit www.VaInstituteofGovernment.org.

Virginia Government Communicators Spring Conference, April 17, Fairfax County

To be held at the Fairfax County Government Center. For details, log-on to <http://www.vgconline.net/> or call Barbara Gordon at 703/642-4635.

2007 Virginia Emergency Management Conference, April 17-20, Williamsburg

Sponsored by the Virginia Emergency Management Association and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, this four-day event will take place at the Williamsburg Marriott. Contact: 804/897-6500.

Virginia Municipal Clerks Association Annual Conference, April 18 - 20, Williamsburg

Jamestown 2007: The Journey That Changed the World, Celebrating America's 400th Anniversary 2007. At Crowne Plaza Williamsburg at Fort Magruder, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg. For information, contact Mina Barberis, City of Virginia Beach, 757/385-8342.

Local Government Attorneys Spring Conference, April 19-21, Hampton

Semi-annual conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Hampton Roads Convention Center. Contact: Leisa Steele at 804/371-0202 or lrs5c@virginia.edu.

Virginia Building and Code Officials Association Mid- Year Meeting, April 29-30, Charlottesville.

Contact: Mary Jo Fields at mfields@vml.org or 804/523-8524.

Restoration 2007: Innovation, Leadership & Networks for Post-Disaster Recovery, May 2- 4, New Orleans.

Sponsored by ICMA, Restoration 2007 will help you learn how to foster community redevelopment and revitalization following a disaster. Get conference details at www.restoration2007.org.

Continued on page 11

CALENDAR

Dealing with Differences: Diversity & the Generation Gap at Work, UVa Continuing Education Center (Richmond), May 9

One of the Second Wednesday Series of professional development classes sponsored by the Virginia Institute of Government. Classes are taught by learning consultants from Chesterfield County's Chesterfield University. Registration per class: \$75-\$100 (includes lunch for full-day seminars). Group discounts. Contact: Jessica Smith at 804/371-0202, e-mail jessicasmith@virginia.edu, or visit www.VaInstituteofGovernment.org.

Municipal Electric Power Association of Virginia, May 23-25, Virginia Beach

Contact: Kimberly Pollard at kpollard@vml.org or 804/523-8528.

Virginia Transit Association 2007 Annual Meeting, June 11-13, Wintergreen

Three-day meeting will be held at the Wintergreen Resort. More information at www.vatransit.com or 804/643-1166.

Succeeding as a First-Time Supervisor, UVa Continuing Education Center (Richmond), June 13

One of the Second Wednesday Series of professional development classes sponsored by the Virginia Institute of Government. Classes are taught by learning consultants from Chesterfield County's Chesterfield University. Registration per class: \$75-\$100 (includes lunch for full-day seminars). Group discounts. Contact: Jessica Smith at 804/371-0202, e-mail jessicasmith@virginia.edu, or visit www.VaInstituteofGovernment.org.

Local Government Attorneys Fall Conference, Sept. 27-29, Williamsburg

Semi-annual conference will be at the Woodlands Hotel/Suites and Conference Center in Colonial Williamsburg. Contact: Leisa Steele at 804/371-0202 or lrs5c@virginia.edu.

2007 VML Annual Conference, Oct. 14-16, James City County

Contact: Joni Terry for general information at jterry@vml.org or 804/523-8529 or contact Kimberly Pollard for exhibition information at kpollard@vml.org or 804/523-8528.

Virginia Building and Code Officials Association Annual Conference, Oct. 21-23, Virginia Beach

Contact: Mary Jo Fields at mfields@vml.org or 804/523-8524.

NLC Congress of Cities, Nov. 13-17, New Orleans

Contact: www.nlc.org.

Preferred method of submitting items is via e-mail to David Parsons at: dparsons@vml.org. You may also submit via FAX at: 804/343-3758.

Update

The newsletter of the
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