

VIRGINIA

TOWN & CITY

The magazine of the Virginia Municipal League

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Find your freedom in Williamsburg

Building Healthy Communities



VML Annual Conference
October 1-3, 2017



Inside:

2016-2017 Annual Report

ATTENTION
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Greetings!

On behalf of my City Council colleagues Scott Foster, Doug Pons, Barbara Ramsey and Benny Zhang, and all the residents of our city, it is indeed a pleasure to welcome the Virginia Municipal League to Williamsburg for its annual conference.

Established in 1699, the City of Williamsburg was one of our nation's first planned cities. It was to be a "new and well-ordered city" suitable for the capital of the largest and most populous of the British colonies in America. The young city grew quickly into the center of political, religious, economic and social life in Virginia. Today, Williamsburg is known for its legion of awards and designations for open government, outstanding regional planning, and for innovative green programs.

Although small in size and population, Williamsburg is an internationally-known vacation and conference destination and a central hub for education, culinary and visual arts, and business. We are home to two internationally renowned institutions, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the world's largest living history museum and a national center for civics education; and the College of William and Mary, the second oldest university in the United States. William & Mary produced the first law school in America, and is the alma mater of Presidents Thomas Jefferson, John Tyler, and James Monroe. Today, the College enjoys a faculty filled with luminaries, and its students most certainly are the leaders of the next generation. They also represent impressive workforce talent and skills for any business looking to locate here.

Colonial Williamsburg continues to inspire new and returning visitors with its stories of the founding of our nation, through new interactive programming and participatory adventures. If you have never fired a musket or thrown an axe, you should give it a try – either this trip or when you return with family. Additionally, Williamsburg boasts a multitude of emerging eclectic art galleries, shops, and eateries that provide farm-to-table cuisine and local dishes. The unique Williamsburg Tasting Trail features three craft breweries, two distilleries, a winery and even a meadery.

I invite you to step out and walk the same streets as did our eighteenth-century patriot leaders and their fellow citizens, while they struggled to found a nation amidst social and political turbulence. While doing so, remember that as public servants we often face difficult challenges, but let us never lose sight of those ideals – a belief in responsible leadership, public service, self-governance, individual liberty, and equal opportunity – upon which our society is built.

Best wishes for an enjoyable stay in Williamsburg and for a successful and productive conference.

Paul T. Freiling
Mayor
City of Williamsburg

Find your freedoms in Williamsburg

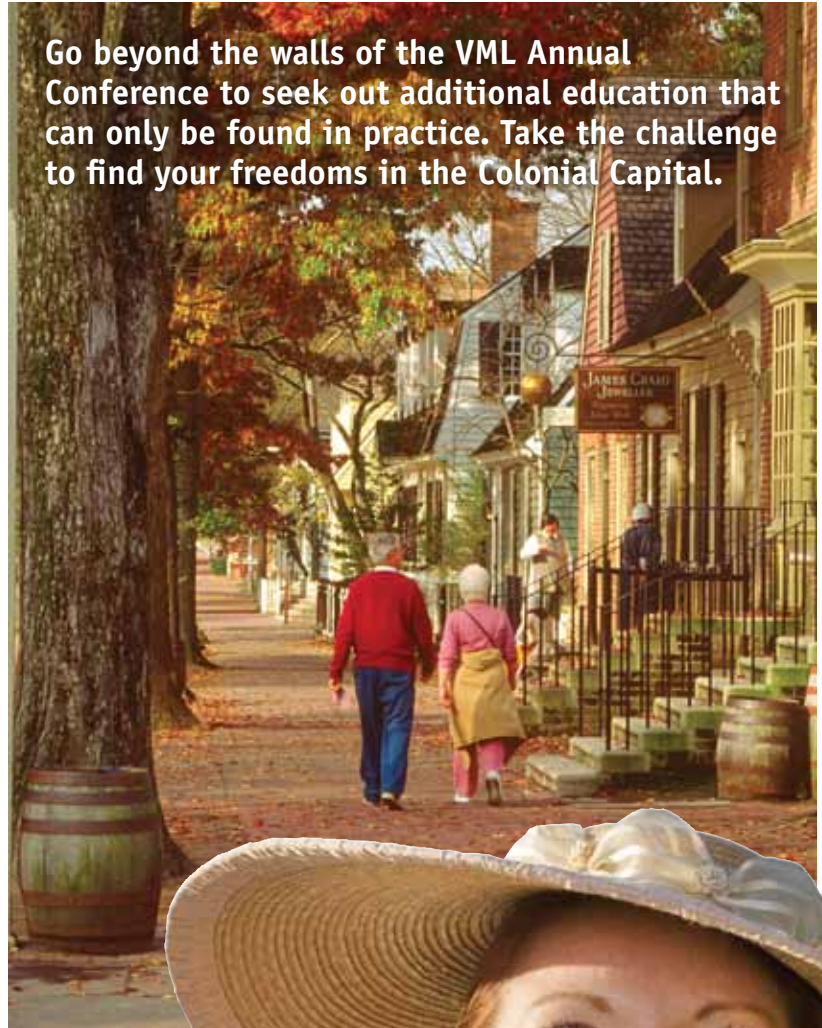
SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN 1699, Williamsburg has been a center of commerce and culture, scholarship and hospitality. Vibrant and cosmopolitan, yet still a small community, Williamsburg offers a unique experience for visitors and a high quality of life for those who call it home.

Stroll down Duke of Gloucester Street, or DoG Street for short, for the best of the 18th and 21st centuries. A mile in length and closed to traffic, it links the College of William and Mary in the west to the reconstructed colonial Capitol in the east. Designated one of the Great Streets of America by the American Planning Association, it is the heart of the City and includes Merchants Square, where you can find great shopping, world-class restaurants, outdoor concert and arts festivals, a nationally-ranked farmers market, and a hometown Christmas parade.

Today, Williamsburg is a small, unassuming nine-square mile City with a mere 15,000 residents and a big international address. It welcomes millions of tourists annually, impressive given that over half of the City is owned by the non-taxable entities of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and the College of William and Mary. With a focus on excellence in public service, visitors and residents receive an unparalleled quality of life and daily adventure with one of the lowest tax rates in the state.

See and hear Williamsburg from a new perspective. Embrace the feeling of the Revolutionary City and the Colonial Capitol as you walk the steps of our founding fathers. Eat at one of the many eclectic and varied restaurants. Embrace your inner student on the campus of William and Mary. See art from the perspective of a crime fighter. Explore the thirst-quenching beverages that fueled the first revolution. It's your freedom - what will you do with it?

Go beyond the walls of the VML Annual Conference to seek out additional education that can only be found in practice. Take the challenge to find your freedoms in the Colonial Capital.



Step into the past

Travel through time to a Williamsburg of 300 years ago

IT MAY BE 2017, but in Colonial Williamsburg, it's the 18th century. For 81 formative years, from 1699 to 1780, Williamsburg was the political, cultural, and educational center of what was then the largest, most populous, and most influential of the American colonies. It was here that the fundamental concepts of our republic — responsible leadership, a sense of public service, self-governance, and individual liberty — were nurtured under the leadership of patriots such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason, and Peyton Randolph.

Today in Colonial Williamsburg visitors will experience the dawn of America with its buildings, shops, gardens, taverns, and horse-drawn carriages. You may meet tradespeople, shopkeepers, and political figures that call Williamsburg home. With so much to see and do, there is something for everyone — history lovers, history makers, and fans of architecture. Get caught up in the historic moments taking place around you.

Listen for the sounds of The Colonial Williamsburg Fifes and Drums as they represent Revolutionary War field musicians. Since 1958, visitors in The Revolutionary City have enjoyed their musical performances. The Fifes and Drums ap-

pear in more than 700 performances each year and visitors can usually catch them every day at 4:30 p.m. as they march down Duke of Gloucester Street from the Capitol to Palace Green.

So you've been to Colonial Williamsburg before? Then find your freedom by going beyond a stroll through history as you make your way down Duke of Gloucester Street peeking into the shop windows or open doors. When was the last time you threw an axe? Try your hand at Colonial Williamsburg's newest adventure, the tomahawk range, where you will be challenged to hit a target as you throw an actual tomahawk or test your marksmanship by registering to fire a flintlock musket.

Be there in spirit

Perhaps you prefer your freedom in a more controlled environment or with a supernatural twist. Colonial Williamsburg can scratch that itch as well. Sign up for an official Colonial Williamsburg ghost walk. These guided walking tours of the historic area feature true tales of the strange as witnessed by Colonial Williamsburg employees over 90 years of protecting our national history.

Take a scenic carriage ride through the city for a unique perspective on transportation in the 18th century.





If October has you looking for an even grander hair-raising experience sign up for one of the nightly Ghosts Amongst Us tours, where you will enter historic structures and be captivated by spirits and characters as they weave their true tales of suspense.

Crack the case

Finding your freedom may mean taking someone else's away. One of the highlights of Colonial Williamsburg's off-the-beaten path experiences can be found in the Cry Witch program. This evening, candle-lit, and interactive trial of a suspected witch from a nearby farm will have you second-guessing your own reality as testimony is presented and witnesses provide their version of the truth.

Should you prefer your justice in the maritime court you can opt for the To Hang a Pirate program where you will decide the fate of one of Blackbeard's crew. The Capitol building will never seem the same after you play a member of the jury in a historic reenactment of colonial justice.

Get ready to dig it

After all of that excitement, you may need the freedom of a restful seat in the Colonial Garden and Nursery. Colonial Williamsburg continues to mold the landscape and share information as they gain more knowledge about colonial gardens. The Colonial Garden and Nursery is an interpretive and sales site across from Bruton Parish Church.

Using 18th-century gardening techniques and reproduction tools, garden historians operate a colonial nursery that, like its colonial historical counterpart, sells authentic plants and seeds, and other garden-related items. The Colonial Nursery is open the last week in March through the Christmas season and there are several garden tours offered with an admission ticket.

If your freedom means getting your hands dirty, try your hand at the brickyard. The Plumb and Bob program is offered with a standard admission ticket and is one of those unique experiences you should not miss. You may not know that nearly all of the materials used to keep Colonial Williamsburg looking as it did in the 18th century are manufactured on site by skilled tradespeople. The brickyard gives you the chance to make brick from clay by wading into the clay pit and stomping a gooey mixture of water and clay. Next sculpt your product for firing in the brick kiln. If you are lucky you may even get the chance to make your mark on history by etching your initials

into a brick waiting to be installed in one of Williamsburg's sidewalks, walls, or floors.

Tee off

Did you know that Colonial Williamsburg also owns and operates award-winning golf courses? It is believed that the freedom to golf is implied in the founding fathers' original works.

Designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr, Colonial Williamsburg's Golden Horseshoe Gold Course opened in September 1963. The course just

completed a yearlong renovation. Embraced by mature woodlands, it continues to be one of the country's most beautiful courses. Today, the course stretches to 6,817 yards with a par of 71 and USGA slope rating of 144. The Gold Course is the oldest of the three courses at Golden Horseshoe Golf Club, all of which support the Colonial Williamsburg guest experience and are open to the public.

Eat, drink, and be merry

All of this freedom should have you looking for some nourishment. The taverns of Colonial Williamsburg have developed new menus, which offer varied price points and experiences. Additionally, Colonial Williamsburg provides 15 other locations for a meal, each with their own menu and ambiance. Take the freedom to try something new like Jazz and Jambalaya in the relaxed setting of Sweet Tea and Barley conveniently located in the Lodge.

More than 100 million visitors have enjoyed the Colonial Williamsburg experience since 1932, among them world leaders including U.S. presidents Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and Bill Clinton. You should be added to that list. If you still think you know what Colonial Williamsburg has to offer, the City challenges you to find your freedom and see it from another angle: that of a local.

Be sure to download the Colonial Williamsburg Explorer app – it's the easy way to get information, buy tickets, find coupons, and locate Liberty, the friendliest Briard around town.

Come back in December for one of the Commonwealth's most legendary holiday celebrations – Colonial Williamsburg's Grand Illumination. On December 3, from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. you can stroll the Historic Area with its unique decorations, enjoy musical performances on multiple stages, and marvel at the fireworks display from the Capitol, the Magazine, and the Palace.



Table to tummy

One of America's oldest foodie destinations taps into new trends

WAS THE WILLIAMSBURG AREA the site of the first farm-to-table experience? Considering that the Jamestown settlers had no other choice but to feed off what the earth provided, one could argue so. Williamsburg welcomes the farm-to-table dining resurgence as well as the new excitement in culinary and spirited beverage experiences.

There are many gastronomical adventures awaiting you in Williamsburg. From traditional colonial fare at Colonial Williamsburg's taverns to small plates at Culture Cafe, the area has anything you're looking for and then some. In the City's

The Williamsburg location of Copper Fox Distillery can produce 300 bottles of both rye and single malt whiskey and gin per day.



Downtown area, a stroll along Prince George Street and Merchant Square includes many local favorites that have indoor and patio dining available. The City's Midtown and Richmond Road areas feature country cooking, Italian, Thai, Indian, cre-

Combine original culinary authenticity with Southern hospitality and you have the ingredients for an amazing series of events,

all happening November 9-12 at the Williamsburg Taste Festival - formerly known as Williamsburg Harvest Celebration. The

Williamsburg Taste Festival is not only an invitation to experience the soul of the city, but it's also a celebration of the food traditions of our nation. Sign up for one or all of the gastronomic events and come discover mouthwatering cuisines, enjoy a craft cocktail or sommelier-paired glass of wine, and meet the chefs, brew masters, and vintners making one of America's oldest foodie destinations one of the newest.



ole, and comfort food. And for breakfast, there are more than a few pancake houses to choose from!

The newest and most spirited way to enjoy Williamsburg is by sampling local craft brews, visiting the Copper Fox Distillery (whiskey and gin) and the Silver Hand Meadery.

Mead is an ancient honey-based fermented drink that has been rediscovered and reimagined right here in Williamsburg. The local breweries, meadery, and distilleries joined together

to create The Williamsburg Tasting Trail that showcases Alwerks Brewing Company, Brass Cannon Brewing, Silver Hand Meadery, Copper Fox Distillery, the Williamsburg Winery, Virginia Beer Company, and the Williamsburg Distillery.

Concerned about who will be the designated driver? Never fear, Drink Williamsburg Tours is here. They offer three distinct drinking experiences: the Drink Williamsburg Tour, a Happy Hour Bus, and the Winery Tasting Tour. Drink Williamsburg will pick up and drop off guests in groups of five or more if they're within three miles of Downtown Williamsburg for free.



Hand Meadery in Williamsburg is helping beer enthusiasts rediscover and reimagine the ancient honey-based fermented drink.

Hallowed halls

Leaders of the past and tomorrow walk the same grounds on historic William & Mary campus

REMEMBER THE FREEDOM OF being an undergraduate college student? Recapture that feeling by exploring the grounds and buildings of the College of William & Mary. Founded by Royal Charter in 1693, it is the second-oldest institution of higher learning in the country. William & Mary has a long history of liberal arts education and a growing research and science curriculum that demonstrates

a strong commitment to undergraduate research. The school has a student body of just over 8,200 full-time students with a 12 to 1 student/faculty ratio.

The University includes five separate schools in Arts & Sciences, Business, Educa-

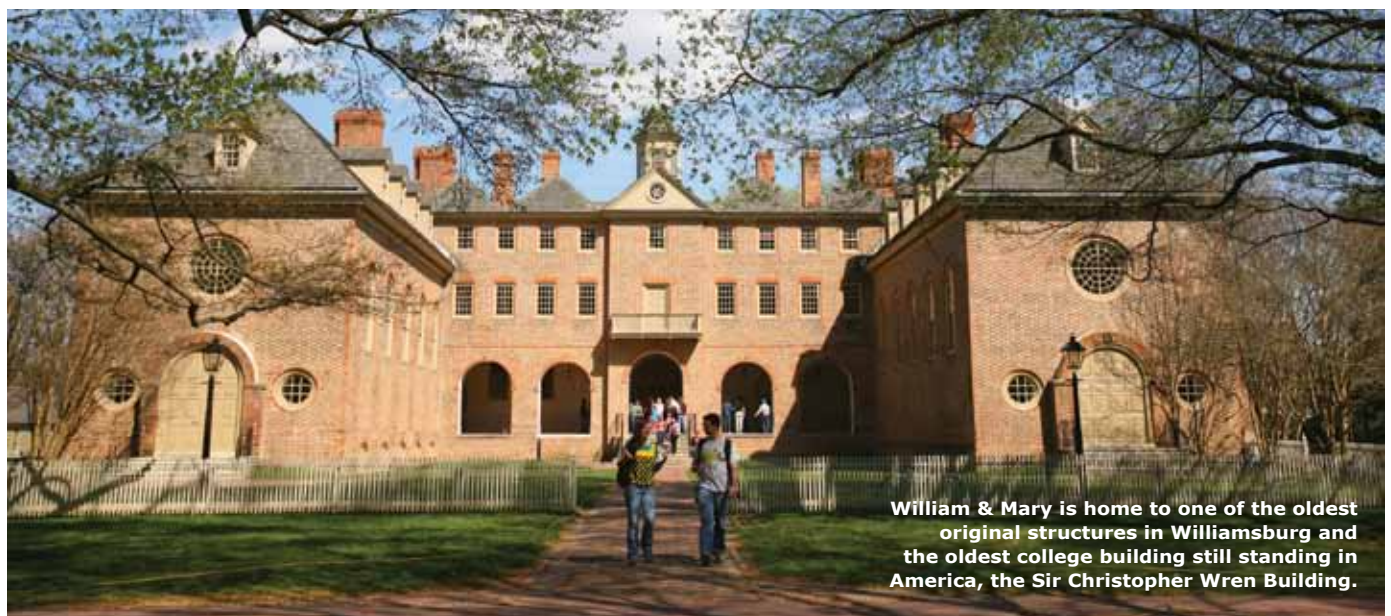
tion, Law, and Marine Science. U.S. News and World Report continually ranks William & Mary among the top public universities in the country. Through small classes, close interaction between professors and students, and the intense experience of discovery through research and service, William & Mary prepares students to make a difference – to be leaders – regardless of their fields.

The William & Mary campus is host to one of the oldest original structures in Williamsburg and the oldest college

building still standing in America – the Sir Christopher Wren Building. Workers began construction on the Wren Building, then known simply as the College Building, in 1695, before the town of Williamsburg even existed. Free tours are offered daily at the entrance of the Wren building and will help complete the picture of young presidents framing their minds for the historic work ahead.

William & Mary continues to redefine the academic community through engaged learning. This occurs in many forms – from intimate freshmen seminars or participation in faculty-led programs to service trips abroad or hands-on work in professors' labs or research programs. From their very first day on campus, students are given unprecedented opportunities to work with peers and experienced faculty mentors on projects that inspire them. You can see this first hand by walking through the Integrated Science Center. This modern research facility houses a host of projects where veteran educators work alongside students to enhance daily life through advances in microbiology, computer science, and botany. The doors of the lab spaces include project details, explanations, and an introduction to the science behind the experiments. This building is a must see for anyone pursuing a heightened educational experience while in Williamsburg.

Seeing William & Mary's campus with the freedom of a student means taking in some of its more hidden gems. Read a few pages in the sunken garden, have a conversation with the talking wall, locate the crypts, and see the flora and fauna of the rooftop greenhouse. The College of William & Mary and its students are a big part of the community. Make it part of your Williamsburg experience.



William & Mary is home to one of the oldest original structures in Williamsburg and the oldest college building still standing in America, the Sir Christopher Wren Building.

People at play

In or out, Williamsburg's got you covered

THE FREEDOM OF THE OUTDOORS in Williamsburg is unmatched. Not only is the City pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly, it has outstanding parks, City walks, recreation programs, and it hosts many city- and community-sponsored activities and events.

According to Andy Clarke, former president of the League of American Bicyclists, "Williamsburg is playing a critical part in creating a truly Bicycle Friendly America. We know Williamsburg's investment in bicycling will be returned many times over in the health, environmental, and quality of life benefits of a thriving community."

Within the city limits, there are about 12 miles of bike lanes and over 90 public bike racks. People often ask, what makes Williamsburg a designated bike-friendly community?

According to the City's principal planner, Erin Burke, "it is based on specific criteria such as bike safety education, slower vehicular speed limits, bicycle access to off-road facilities (off of main roads to bike paths or shared-use paths), and engineering." Erin adds, "This past spring we held our first-ever Bike Hike event with local fifth graders."

"Great City Walks" can be found around town as well. Trails are located in the Downtown area, near the Colonial Parkway, around the William and Mary campus, and in Waller Mill Park. To visualize the walks, download the City's Williamsburg Wayfinder app from either the App Store (Apple) or Google Play.

Speaking of Waller Mill Park, an outdoor adventure might include kayaking or pedal boating on the lake, fishing, hiking, biking, or picnicking. The park's recently-renovated waterfront includes a new floating dock to replace the old stationary dock, a resurfaced existing floating dock, a new bulkhead and permanent boardwalk, a new boat ramp and boarding dock, a new fishing pier, and improvements to meet ADA requirements. The park's 18-hole disc golf course is fast becoming a favorite of locals and disc golf enthusiasts across the region. And if your outing includes your best canine friend, be sure to enjoy the dog park.

Outdoor lovers will find plenty to enjoy in Williamsburg. For even more options, try these challenges: find the tunnel at Waller Mill Park, take in the view from the overlook at College Creek, and learn what a redoubt is at Redoubt Park.

Renovations at Waller Mill Park included replacing an old stationary dock with a new floating one that adjusts to fluctuating water conditions.



SHOULD THE CLOUDS GATHER and the rain fall, there are still lots of freedom to enjoy. How about a round of golf? Try Revolution Golf and Grille, Virginia's Premier Indoor Golf Center. Here you can tee off at such notable courses as Pebble Beach and Augusta National without leaving the Peninsula or even going outside. Equipped with six high-definition golf simulators featuring 32 courses, Revolution Golf and Grille boasts a full menu restaurant and fully stocked sports bar. While the focus is on golf, there are other games and challenges to try such as darts and poker.

Other fun indoor activities might include Ripley's Believe it or Not and its Odditorium featuring a collection of weird oddities from around the world; Bounce House and Laser Tag with hours of indoor fun for the young and the adventurous; Room Escape Williamsburg, an interactive activity where teams race against the clock to solve puzzles and unlock codes to complete the mission and/or escape using only common sense, logic, and the power of teamwork; or dinner and a movie at Movie Tavern with its chef-driven menu, premium quality food and drink and luxurious seating that completely transforms your movie-going experience.



Kayaking is just one outdoor activity visitors can enjoy at Waller Mill Park.

To a fine art

Walk on Williamsburg's creative side



ALL ARE GIVEN THE FREEDOM to enjoy a healthy dose of art in Williamsburg.

The distinctive collections of the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum and the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum can be found under one roof. Located in the Colonial Williamsburg restored area, visitors enter through the Public Hospital of 1773 where there are exhibits detailing mental illness treatments from the 18th and 19th centuries. The hospital was the first of its kind in North America. Downstairs are wonderful examples of American and British antiques and decorative art from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries and bold and imaginative pieces of colonial and contemporary folk art.

On the campus of William & Mary (W&M) is the Muscarelle Museum of Art. Over the course of nearly 300 years, W&M has amassed a sizeable collection of art and established the need for a museum to preserve and protect them. Treasures in the collection now span the centuries, including works by Hans Hofmann, Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, and John Singleton Copley. The collection has continued to grow and now numbers over 5,000 works of art from many cultures and historical eras.

The Museum collection is supplemented and enhanced by numerous special exhibitions that bring works of art from public and private collections worldwide. The Museum collaborates on special thematic exhibitions with academic departments at The College and with other cultural institutions and organizations. The museum just completed hosting the international loan exhibit of Botticelli works that drew thousands of visitors to Williamsburg. During your visit, the museum will feature Fred Eversley, 50 Years an Artist: Light & Space & Energy as well as Building on the Legacy: African American Art from the Permanent Collection.

Use your artistic freedom to explore art in new ways. Take a museum scavenger hunt or partake in a murder mystery tour. Colonial Williamsburg capitalizes on the history of the art and, with a little creative license, creates a mystery that you must

Come back October 6-8 for an Occasion for the Arts in Merchants Square. This annual arts

festival was founded in 1969 to provide Williamsburg with an arts extravaganza. Since then it has grown, year by year, to become the area's premier art and music festival. The event draws outstanding artists from around the country on the first weekend in October each year. Lively performances are held on two stages, and the popular food court provides a culinary taste of fall.

sleuth inside the Dewitt Wallace Arts Museum. This “whodunit” is perfect for all ages. The guilty party changes so that you can keep guessing no matter how many times you have played.



Colonial Williamsburg's beautiful gardens encourage painting and drawing en plein air (in the open air), a technique favored by French impressionists.

A redevelopment revolution

Williamsburg reimagines major commercial centers to bring new life to three properties



The redevelopment plan for Midtown Row includes creation of an urban street grid with retail on the first floor and rental housing for the upper stories. A community plaza in the center can accommodate community gatherings and entertainment.

THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG is still capturing the spirit of the nation's builders as it launches a second revolution to reimagine what the Colonial Capital could be. As you travel the streets during your visit, you may hear artillery-like sounds that are not the noon or evening cannon at Colonial Williamsburg. Many of the City's commercial corridors, including ones along Monticello Avenue, Richmond Road, and Capitol Landing Road, are in the early stages of a redevelopment revolution and receiving a lot of attention from the City through road projects and new private sector ownership.

A new look for Midtown

The Williamsburg Shopping Center is located at the corners of Richmond Road, Monticello Avenue, and Lafayette Street. This area is referred to as Midtown. The shopping center is an aged product in need of a reinvention. After the property fell into receivership, new owners are bringing new life through a comprehensive redevelopment plan that embodies the City Council's vision for the area. The plan includes creation of an urban street grid with five stories of street wall that start with retail on the first floor and transition to rental

housing for the remaining four stories. Midtown Row, the new name of the center, will be designed to retain landmark tenants like Sal's by Victor, a renowned Italian dining highlight, and neighborhood businesses like the ABC and Food Lion stores.

The project will feature newer development trends like a modern food hall. The food hall is not a new concept but the resurgence in popularity is refreshing. A central "hall" with shared table spaces and seats is ringed with national and local food providers. A focus is typically given to local sourcing of ingredients and a balance of food purveyors and retail opportunities. This will be an exciting first for Williamsburg and provide a great lower-cost entry point for newer chefs and retailers.

Nationally, a redevelopment of this scale would be teetering on the pinpoint of local EDA assistance and private support. The Midtown Row project is fully funded through private investment. The City of Williamsburg is providing a complete redevelopment of Monticello Avenue that was planned prior to the acquisition of the Williamsburg Shopping Center by the new owner. This redevelopment has proven to be a catalyst for the Midtown project and is the only requirement of the developer. The newly-designed section of Monticello Avenue will include a complete street project adding pedestrian and

bicycle features to enhance the urban flavor of the site.

The developer has some experience with reinventing “second generation” centers. They own, manage, or lease properties in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, and Colorado. One of their recent redevelopments features an arts theme with galleries and “pop-up” shows. The center of the Midtown Row redevelopment plan is a community plaza designed to activate the streets with unique programming and entertainment. The developer and new owner, Broad Street LLC, is new to Williamsburg and is enjoying the challenges of marrying the City’s commitment to historic preservation with a need to add modern and even edgy design elements.

A recently-completed fiscal impact study indicates that the project with a branded hotel product of 140 rooms, 1,240 new housing units, and 129,000 square feet of both new and retained retail square footage could generate as much as \$1.1 million in new revenues for the City while adding \$320,000 in expenses. While the new revenues are exciting they are not the real reason to support the project. The City Council’s Biennial Goals, Initiatives, and Outcomes (GIOs) highlight the Midtown project as the cornerstone of staff focus. Having a development plan that so closely matches the vision set for the area by the Comprehensive Plan and City Council GIO process makes it a satisfying public investment.

This project certainly makes it an exciting time to be a Midtown resident and gives yet another reason for current visitors to come back and see the new Midtown Row in the fall of 2019.

Live, work, and play on High Street

A second project capturing the attention of residents and visitors is also in its infancy, or second childhood at least. The High Street development is located along Richmond Road just beyond Midtown. This development is designed as a live, work, and play community with residential units of both rental and ownership supporting a large retail development in the front. The project was designed and permitted in the mid-2000s with grand vision. The developer’s high standards of design brought larger construction costs and an architecture that is distinct along the suburban Richmond Road corridor. The project, like many, began with vigor that faded as the downturn in the market took hold in the late 2000s. Many of the constructed storefronts were left vacant and anchors that were planned did not materialize.

As the downturn stifled progress, 191 apartments, 16 townhouses, and 132,901 square feet of commercial space were completed. Similar to the Midtown project, the High Street design included a central plaza with a large fountain and obelisk. Currently, the center is performing well with a low commercial vacancy rate. The Movie Tavern, a modern “dine in” theater experience, and a Vanity Fair Outlet serve as anchor stores.

Despite the recent uncertainty with ownership, new businesses are opening in High Street. Most recently the City celebrated the ribbon cutting for Revolution Golf and Grille, a new full-service bar and restaurant that offers a virtual golfing experience. Another recently opened addition to High Street is Orangetheory Fitness. With over 450 locations in 39 states, this national chain is a daily trip generator in the High Street

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development. Rounding out the selection of businesses, Le Yaca offers the staple Williamsburg experience for lunch or dinner. This traditional French restaurant started as a small house conversion in the French Alps. 2014 marked the opening of the Williamsburg location; the fourth location for this “must try” locals spot.

Today’s High Street is divided into three distinct sections: the completed apartments and townhouses, the commercial development, and the residential units remaining for development. All three recently sold to new owners who have demonstrated interest in completing the vision for the property. This will mean 37 more townhouses, 330 condominiums, 191 apartments, and a capstone of an additional 92,694 square feet of commercial space. The completed High Street will be a central location of activity for residents and visitors. The new owners of the commercial side have already started planning new events with craft beer, music, and art. The new owner of the unfinished residential density is excited to bring a new living option to Williamsburg. These townhouse-style units will be a mix of arrangements all with high-end finishes. This product will have the highest price point in the market and is sure to be a place for comfort and convenience. The existing residential section, while small, boasts some of the highest value townhouse properties in the market.

The contrast of the High Street and Midtown products could not be more pronounced. The High Street brick architecture and formal appearance will be met with a more modern glass and urban design at Midtown. The residential components complement each audience as well. The Midtown product will be geared toward younger professionals

and students with a higher noise and traffic level while High Street, with a separated residential and commercial design, will be geared toward more settled professionals.

A new gateway to Williamsburg at Capitol Landing Road

The final project is one that has been slowly transitioning over the many years and is just entering the work phase of re-development - Capitol Landing Road, the former primary point of access for the Colonial Williamsburg historic area. Over the years, the road has been bypassed twice. This has resulted in the familiar small-town story of a disused commercial corridor populated with dated commercial products and an eclectic mix of uses.

The current area of focus is a one-mile stretch of road that begins at the intersection of Merrimac Trail and terminates at the Bypass Road intersection. This important gateway to Williamsburg from I-64 is poised to be re-discovered. The building blocks include major hotel chains, a unique “pioneer” redevelopment project, a large collection of parcels owned by the City, and a large right-of-way. Capitol Landing Road is well positioned to offer an experience unlike that found in the historic district, and given its proximity to Duke of Gloucester Street and the Colonial Williamsburg Visitor Center, this corridor has the opportunity to be an added value, authentic visitor experience.

The kickoff for this project dates back to 2011 with the City’s purchase of the Lord Paget Hotel, a large motor court-style exterior-entry hotel. In recent years, the City has been actively working to retire exterior-entry hotels in an effort to inspire new private investment. This strategy paid off at the Lord Paget.

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important jumping-off points could be funded using local investment, private investment, and a unique blend of state and federal grant opportunities.

The Capitol Landing Road redevelopment project will be a highlight to the redevelopment revolution in Williamsburg as it is designed to lure new creative businesses with a gritty, fresh and local feel.

Copper Fox Distillery purchased the property for \$600,000, which was 86 percent of the City’s acquisition cost.

Copper Fox owner Rick Wasmund lives with his family on site and operates a full distillery capable of producing 300 bottles of both rye and single malt whiskey and gin per day. The Copper Fox also distributes from this location. The Williamsburg hotel conversion is the second location for Wasmund after opening a farm distillery in Sperryville during 2005. He is now working to complete the renovation of the Lord Paget by finishing the buildout of a larger still room with enhanced tasting and retail options. One feature not to miss is the old swimming pool that is heated with recirculated water from the stills.

The Copper Fox serves as a “pioneer” project in the redevelopment corridor. The other major catalyst is a significant road project planned for 2019. Borrowing from the quaint downtown of Hendersonville, North Carolina, the straight four-lane road with a typical cross section of 100 feet will give way to a modern main street with two travel lanes featuring forced gentle curves. The City will use outdoor dining areas, patio performance venues, and landscaped islands to push a straight express route into a curvy Sunday drive.

One side of Capitol Landing Road has great street front development potential. The larger yard spaces are enhanced for the pedestrian and bicyclist. The forced curves provide for narrow crossings of the roadway which will allow for a large multi-use path to be installed to help carry visitors and residents from Williamsburg’s downtown in the historic area to the new retail, dining, and entertainment venues. The other side of the road will provide infill and redevelopment opportunities.

The capstone to the City’s Capitol Landing Road redevelopment efforts will be the new facilities planned for another large tract of City-owned property that formerly hosted two large exterior-entry hotels and currently is home to a small older commercial center. This property is situated at the gateway to the new district and will be ideal for a special development plan to welcome you to a distinctly Williamsburg experience. This component of the project may feature a test brewery and kitchen facility which could serve as incubators for new businesses prior to their settling into permanent homes. Using a common brew house and five retail spaces, home brewers or breweries testing the Williamsburg market can get started with a low entry cost. The model is repeated for the test kitchen using shared spaces to reduce costs for budding chefs or veterans looking to perfect their Williamsburg strategy. These two

It all comes back to freedom. The freedom to be artsy, to relax, to be curious, to learn, and to dream.

You’ve journeyed through Williamsburg’s past, enjoyed its present, and visualized its future. This is the excitement that is Williamsburg, and you have

reason after reason to come back and enjoy the hospitality of Virginia’s Colonial Capital. Have a great conference and see you back here soon.



For more information on Williamsburg attractions and events, visit these online resources.

City of Williamsburg
www.williamsburgva.gov

Colonial Williamsburg
Colonial Williamsburg’s
Grand Illumination
www.colonialwilliamsburg.com
www.history.org

William & Mary
www.wm.edu

An Occasion for the Arts
www.aofta.org

Greater Williamsburg Chamber and
Tourism Alliance
Williamsburg Taste Festival
www.visitwilliamsburg.com

The picture of health

Promoting wellness is central to Williamsburg's culture

WITH ITS THEME of “Building Healthy Communities,” it is fitting that the 2017 VML annual conference is taking place in Williamsburg. The City has been a member of the Health Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities and Towns Campaign since 2013 and has attained the Campaign’s highest level of achievement for its work to create a healthy community by promoting healthy eating and active living.

The campaign, a project of the Institute for Public Health Innovation funded by Kaiser Permanente, offers technical assistance to local government leaders who want to implement local policies and practices that encourage residents and municipal employees to eat healthier and move more.

As a Platinum-level HEAL City, Williamsburg has implemented a variety of policies, practices, programs, and environmental changes that have increased access to healthy food and provided more opportunities to be physically active. In fact, the City has acted upon all eighteen of the initiatives included

in its HEAL resolution. A HEAL resolution, the first step in becoming a member of the Campaign, documents a city’s/town’s commitment to healthy eating and active living and lists those HEAL strategies it will work to implement.

The City kicked off its HEAL work by creating an interde-

“The HEAL resolution has been a catalyst in our organization and in our community for a wide spectrum of activities, programs, and education all designed to improve community health.”

Williamsburg Mayor Paul Freiling

partmental Health and Wellness Committee within its government. Department heads and employees who are members of the Committee are responsible for developing strategies and implementing them to achieve the City’s HEAL resolution goals. The Committee meets regularly, monitoring progress and developing new initiatives. From the start, HEAL has had support from across city government and from city employees, the city manager’s office, and the community as well.

Promoting active living with land use goals

Many of Williamsburg’s HEAL initiatives focus on creating a built environment that promotes active living. Using land use and land regulation goals that promote mixed-use, transit-oriented development, the City is creating an environment that makes it safer and more convenient and accessible to walk and bicycle. Mixed-use transit-oriented development typically includes a mixture of housing, office, retail and/or other amenities that are integrated into a walkable and bikeable neighborhood and located within walking distance of public transportation.

The City has included these land use and land regulation goals in its Comprehensive Plan and has provided funding in its Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), over several years, for implementation. The City uses a unique budgeting strategy centered on the development of goals, initiatives, and outcomes (GIOs) each biennium. These GIOs are the result of significant public engagement and are coupled with performance measures to insure the work is completed.

During the 2015-2016 biennium, for example, the GIOs included nine projects aimed at developing a healthier built environment. Six of the projects have been completed and the remaining three are planned for FY18, with a total expense of over \$2 million.

“Typically, a city’s CIP is largely influenced by the



The children’s basketball league is a very popular program offered by the City of Williamsburg and utilizes school system resources.



One of the most popular sports offered by the City's Parks and Recreation Department is Pickle Ball.

Access to healthy food

The City has a long-standing commitment to its Farmers' Market which is in its fifteenth year of operation. The Market has 40 vendors as well as live music, nursery plants, baked goods, and a wide selection of prepared foods. Since its inception, the City has provided funding to the Market through its annual budget process. The need for the City's support has decreased over time as local business support and private donations have increased.

One of the Farmers' Market's objectives is to "provide healthy regionally-produced food to all economic levels of the Williamsburg community." A strategy included in the City's HEAL resolution has helped to meet that objective.

The HEAL resolution committed the City to implementing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) at the Market. In 2013, the City and the Market instituted the SNAP program that allows Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card holders to use an EBT machine onsite to purchase tokens

need for public safety and quality education. While those issues are very important, our City Council gives equal weight to sidewalks and bike paths because they affect the quality of life of our residents and visitors," explains Assistant City Manager Andrew Trivette.

Building on Williamsburg's historic assets, the City's "Great City Walks" initiative has also served to promote walking among residents and visitors. The "Great City Walks" Guide includes seven trails for urban hiking that highlight interesting and historic sites in the City. The Guide is an example of how HEAL initiatives are often an interdepartmental government effort. It reflects the work of the City Manager's office, the Parks and Recreation Department, Planning and Codes Compliance, Public Works, and the City's Geographic Information System (GIS) staff. It also benefits from the co-sponsorship and support of the Williamsburg Farmers' Market, the Williamsburg Regional Library, and the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance.

The City also made a commitment in its HEAL resolution to invest in parks and recreation and increase its open space to provide places to be physically active. Over the last several years, it has purchased thousands of acres of land surrounding the Waller Mill Watershed. This has served the City's combined interest of protecting the water supply and providing more trails and ample park space for the region.

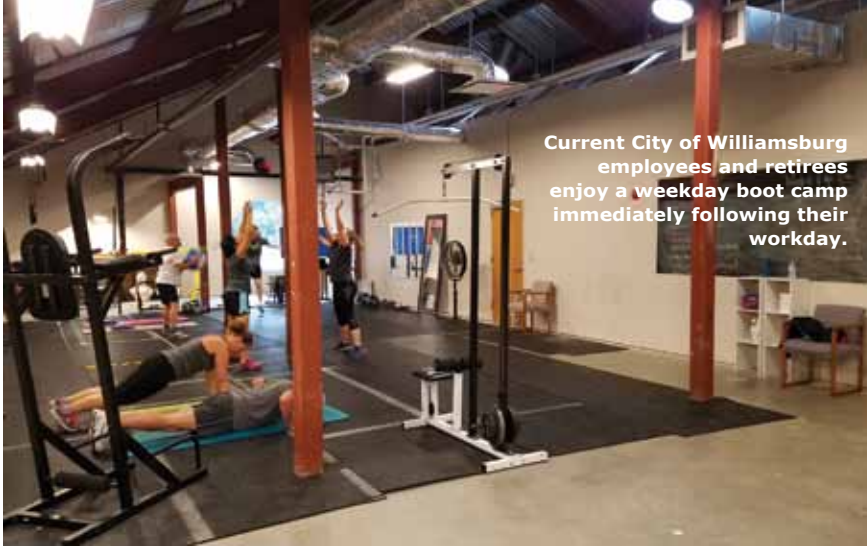
With limited resources, the City's Parks and Recreation Department has also been able to provide robust recreational programming. In addition, the City has a joint use agreement with area schools to expand its recreational offerings. Under that agreement, the Parks and Recreation Department assists in reserving school facilities in Williamsburg, James City County, and York County for use by citizens (school system functions and sports are given priority).



Community members participate in a sand volleyball tournament held at the City of Williamsburg's Quarterpath Recreation Center.



Just another Saturday morning at Williamsburg's top 5 Farmers' Market.



Current City of Williamsburg employees and retirees enjoy a weekday boot camp immediately following their workday.

tion routes for their efficiency as well as for the existence of shelters and benches – all characteristics that affect the feasibility of using public transportation to access healthy food.

Workplace wellness

Williamsburg has taken advantage of existing assets among its own employees to build a robust workplace wellness program, another aspect of its HEAL activities. For example, a Williamsburg employee runs a “boot camp” for employees, one of the City’s

most popular wellness programs. Another employee, who is a certified yogi, runs a yoga class for employees who asked for a less strenuous fitness alternative to the boot camp.

The City also has workout facilities for employee use and promotes water consumption in the workplace to discourage employees from drinking sugary drinks. Water is purchased by City departments and made available to employees throughout the day, even those out in the field. Water is also provided at all major City meetings.



City employees lead a community National Walk Day event through Colonial Williamsburg.

redeemable for fresh market foods. The program includes a 2:1 return for SNAP purchases so that a customer receives \$2 in tokens for every \$1 EBT credit exchanged. Williamsburg’s Human Services Department encourages the use of the Market among its clients and makes newly-enrolled SNAP clients aware of the program at the Market.

Another HEAL initiative that has been implemented is the construction of a giving garden, also made possible by the City’s partnerships. The garden was installed by the City’s De-

The City has most recently embarked on a new initiative to ensure that older adults and other residents with limited income have access to fresh, healthy food.

partment of Parks and Recreation Department with assistance from Virginia Dominion Energy which also provided grant funding. Water for the garden is provided through a rain barrel collection system that was designed and installed through an Eagle Scout project.

The City has most recently embarked on a new initiative to ensure that older adults and other residents with limited income have access to fresh, healthy food. The City established a committee that will study how to improve access to the Farmers’ Market, food pantries, and grocery stores through public transportation. The committee will examine public transporta-

To accommodate employees who are breastfeeding upon their return to work after giving birth, the City provides two large family restrooms within City Hall.

As a member of the HEAL Cities and Towns Campaign, Williamsburg is building a healthy community by creating an environment for citizens, visitors, and government employees that encourages healthy eating and active living.

It’s an initiative that can have wide-ranging benefits for the City.

“Promoting a healthy community is at the core of what local government is all about,” said Nichole Furey, assistant to the chief at the Williamsburg Fire Department and member of the Health and Wellness Committee. “For the City of Williamsburg, it’s important for us to create an environment that encourages healthy behaviors and choices for employees and citizens alike.

Good health (emotional, physical, financial, etc.) yields happiness and resilience, which in turn cultivates engagement and innovation.”

About the author: Susan DeFrancesco is the program manager at the Institute for Public Health Innovation. For more information about the HEAL Cities and Towns campaign, visit <http://www.healcitiesmidatlantic.org/heal-and-economic-development> or contact HEAL staff at 202-747-3455.



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Building Healthy Communities



**VML Annual Conference
October 1-3, 2017**

**Register now at
www.vml.org**

All conference activities, including general sessions, break outs, and the exhibit hall, will take place at the Williamsburg Lodge, 310 South England Street.



Session highlights

Sunday, October 1

Public Perspectives on Monuments and Memorials Panel



This panel will discuss issues associated with monuments and commemorations to include First Amendment issues, local government tools for parade and demonstration processes, and associated public safety concerns. Hear how local governments have addressed these controversies and worked to address community concerns.

NLC and You

Katrina Washington, National League of Cities

Learn about the benefits available from the National League of Cities' affiliate program for small communities. Katrina Washington is the membership services and engagement representative for NLC's south region.

Monday, October 2

Meet the Candidates 4 - 5 p.m.



Ed Gillespie



Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam

VML is pleased to host gubernatorial candidates Ed Gillespie and Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam in Williamsburg. Hear each candidate's priorities and vision for Virginia's future.

Tuesday, October 3

Quality of Life in the Community



Clifford V. Morris, MD

Dr. Cliff Morris is a board-certified cardiologist whose unique approach addresses the physical, psychological, cultural, and social aspects of heart disease. The Morris Cardiovascular and Risk Reduction Center in Chester, Va, which he founded, has the first medical fitness program of its kind which reverses heart

disease and diabetes through comprehensive lifestyle change. Educated at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he received his BS degree in biology while playing basketball for the legendary Coach Dean Smith alongside teammate Michael Jordan. Morris's life work has earned him prestigious recognition for his humanitarian efforts.

Download the VML App with 2017 Annual Conference resources

Find session descriptions, speaker bios, exhibitor info, schedules, and maps. Available in your device's app store.



A message from President Robert K. Coiner

IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR and a privilege to serve as the President of the Virginia Municipal League this past year. From advocacy successes at the General Assembly to new educational and networking opportunities for local government officials, it was a very good year to be a member of the League. VML has a proud history of service to the localities of the Commonwealth and we are committed to improving upon our accomplishments. The League is strong and well positioned to meet all challenges and responsibilities. Our future is bright.

Whether you attended VML Day at the Capitol or responded to staff requests to contact your legislators during the General Assembly, thank you. You, as local officials, are the key to our success working with the General Assembly and letting them know of the very real consequences their bills would have on our towns, cities, and counties.

Thank you to Senator Norment for working with VML to support the needs of Virginia local governments by introducing SB 1578. Passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Terry McAuliffe in March, the law that went into effect July 1 allows localities to regulate the short-term rental industry by creating registries of operators and properties. With such registries, local governments can collect transient occupancy taxes and ensure land use and zoning ordinances are satisfied. Consider adopting ordinances pertaining to short-term rentals now in preparation for any future legislation.

I'm very pleased to share that the Executive Committee has approved VML participation in the affiliate program of the National League of Cities (NLC). This enables nearly 90 percent of VML member cities and towns—those with a population of 30,000 and under—to enjoy the benefits of NLC membership. As an affiliate member of NLC, localities can receive federal updates, participate in policy committees, and attend NLC programs at member rate. You also have access to the NLC grants portal. I encourage you to explore the benefits and create an account at nlc.org.

One of the initiatives I announced at the beginning of the year was Building Healthy Communities. As you are probably aware, dramatically increased numbers of people in the Commonwealth are becoming obese and unhealthy each year. Shockingly, our children are developing heart disease and Type 2 Diabetes, old age diseases. There is a real need for public health to be addressed by us as the leaders of Virginia's localities. The choices we make, from building more walkable and bikeable communities to making it easier for people to access

fresh foods, will have positive impacts on our citizens now and for years to come. I hope you have enjoyed the success stories and tips in the articles presented by the HEAL (Healthy Eating Active Living) Cities & Towns Campaign this year. I know my life was dramatically impacted by healthy eating and active living, losing 85 pounds last year. New public policies you create, with community health in mind, as well as your encouragement and motivation of your citizens, will affect real change in the future health of citizens in all of our communities around the Commonwealth.

To highlight its importance, we have added Community Health as a new category in the VML Innovation Awards.

I have enjoyed working with each of you and learning about your community's concerns through the year, whether that was at a regional supper, VML Day at the Capitol, or a Leadership Academy event. The networking and fellowship opportunities VML provides are critical to helping us share ideas, learn from each other, and collaborate to advance our shared objectives.

I want to thank the members of the VML Executive Committee for their continued support of our organization. It has been a privilege to work with such an amazing group of dedicated local officials. I also want to recognize the work of our outstanding VML staff. Each staff member contributes to the excellence and the many successes of

the League. With this Executive Committee setting the course and our terrific League staff working hard to implement the policies, I can assure you that the future of our organization is indeed bright.

Now, as my year as VML President comes to a close, I want to thank all of you for your service to your communities, and for your continued support of the Virginia Municipal League. This is my eighth year of service on the Executive Committee and I have valued and benefited from each one of them immensely. I would encourage each of you to become more involved in our advocacy, our events, and our training; and please consider joining one of VML's committees, hopefully working toward a leadership position with the League. It is only with your participation that you will receive the full value of your League membership, and it's only with your participation that the League can reach its full potential.



Robert K. Coiner

Robert K. Coiner

VML Executive Committee



Patricia P. Woodbury

President-Elect
Council Member,
City of Newport News



Anita James Price

Vice President
Vice Mayor, City of Roanoke



Gene Teague

At-large member
Mayor, City of Martinsville



Laurie DiRocco

At-large member
Mayor, Town of Vienna



Christina Luman-Bailey

At-large member
Vice Mayor, City of Hopewell



Ophie Kier

At-large member
Vice Mayor, City of Staunton



Jill Carson

At-large member
Council Member,
Town of Pennington Gap



Ron Rordam

Immediate Past President
Mayor, Town of Blacksburg



A.D. "Chuckie" Reid

Town Section Chair
Vice Mayor, Town of Farmville



Willie Green

City Section Chair
Vice Mayor, City of Galax



Thomas R. Smigiel, Jr.

Urban Section Chair
Council Member, City of Norfolk

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPO

IN THE 112 YEARS since its founding, the Virginia Municipal League continues to help local governments “secure a better administration of municipal affairs” as charged by the League’s first president, Samuel Buxton. With a mission to assist local governments through legislative advocacy, research, and education, VML serves as a clearinghouse for information, a medium through which local leaders cooperate to improve the quality of life in Virginia.

VML’s Executive Committee and staff strive to exceed the vision established in 2014. With that in mind, the League’s accomplishments for 2016-2017 are detailed here.

Lobbying and advocacy

VML continues to have a strong working relationship with the current governor and we have made contact with members of both campaigns to build a similar relationship with the next governor. This year we were very successful in ensuring that localities retained their land use authority when regulating short term rentals. There was also great success in limiting the wireless infrastructure bill to only co-location on existing structures. Our legislative priorities and policy statements continue to be vital to our lobbying efforts and we are grateful to our policy and legislative committee members for their time and commitment to local government.

We have established a Federal Advisory Council that developed a federal policy statement and we hosted our first reception on the Hill. This group will continue to monitor legislation on the Federal level and provide reports.

VML Day at the Capitol

On Jan. 25, VML hosted local government officials at the Capitol for the annual networking event with members of the General Assembly. In between meetings with delegates and senators, local officials heard about legislative issues from VML staff and subject-matter experts. This year’s briefing addressed short-term rental issues, stormwater regulations, and legislation concerning wireless infrastructure and broadband.

Education and training

Annual Conference and Virginia Mayors Institute

VML’s annual conference has always delivered the latest updates on hot-button issues affecting local governments relayed by nationally recognized experts. The 2016 event in Virginia Beach was no exception. Legislative advocacy at the state and national level was the focus of several sessions. Breakout sessions and roundtables provided an array of best practices. Networking events offered fun laid-back evenings for 500+ conferees to build collegial relationships in an atmosphere of good food, good friends, and great entertainment. A highlight for many was hearing remarks from former astronaut and NFL player Leland Melvin as the keynote speaker for the closing session.

Finance Forum

The annual Finance Forum prior to the start of the General Assembly provides an excellent opportunity for local elected officials and staff to learn about fiscal issues. The 2017 event was held Jan. 4 at the Omni Richmond. Topics included the state budget and a state revenue outlook; a Virginia economic forecast and its possible effect on local budgets; the effect of changes in employment on Virginia’s economy; the maker movement and its implications for local economies; and how local officials can weigh in on the 2017 session of the General Assembly. The forum is a joint effort of VML and the Virginia Association of Counties.

Virginia Leadership Academy

For 2017, VML updated the name of the Virginia Elected Officials Leadership Academy to Virginia Leadership Academy, reflecting the program’s benefit for local appointed and elected officials. Through an interactive curriculum of specialized instruction, the academy develops the knowledge and enhances the leadership abilities of those who serve the localities of the Commonwealth of Virginia. With three levels

VML Vision

VML shall:

- **Work to build strong relationships among local, state, and federal officials;**
- **Serve as a communications hub for local governments;**
- **Facilitate the engagement of our members with the organization and facilitate the engagement of citizens with their local governments; and**
- **Maintain a financially-stable organization that is staffed to serve the needs of the membership.**



of achievement, the Leadership Academy promotes continuing education, advanced training, and participation in regional boards and task forces. To date, nearly 700 people have participated in Academy webinars and in-person events. Join VML in congratulating 2017's Academy graduates at the VML conference, Oct. 3, and check the conference packet for dates of 2017-2018 seminars and webinars.

Institute for Local Officials

Recently-elected officials and veterans of local service alike can benefit from training and education on critical issues for leaders. To support that, VML updated the Newly Elected Officials Conference to the Institute for Local Officials in 2017. The two-day event in March covered topics such as comprehensive planning, council/manager relations, the Dillon rule, and budgeting. It also addressed the Freedom of Information Act, Conflicts of Interest Act, and public officials' liability.

Networking

For several years, VML has conducted supper meetings around the state to provide local government officials with timely information. In spring 2017, VML visited Appomattox,

Culpeper, Emporia, Marion, Onancock, and Williamsburg. Each of the regional suppers addressed an issue of importance to the region, such as downtown revitalization, tourism, or short-term rentals. They also included a review of the 2017 legislation session. In addition, VML staff used the meetings to learn about issues affecting members and gathered ideas for ways the league can better serve cities, towns, and counties across the Commonwealth.

Communications

VML is continuously evaluating its communications strategy to respond to changes in technologies and readers' preferences. Virginia Town & City is published 10 times per year and highlights people, programs, and organizations who are making positive changes across Virginia. VML also publishes an email newsletter twice a month and email alerts as needed to communicate time-sensitive information to subscribers. For those using newer media, the VML Facebook page and VML app are other avenues to learn about important topics and events in government. Training webinars are another new communication tool from VML which provide the same valuable information as our in-person events but from the convenience of the participant's office.

Healthy living: 2017 president's priority

GORDONSVILLE MAYOR Bob Coiner made promoting healthier lifestyles the focus of his 2017 VML presidency. VML partnered with the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities & Towns Campaign to share ways local governments can adopt policies that stem the obesity epidemic and create healthy, prosperous communities. HEAL contributed monthly articles to Virginia Town & City throughout 2017. VML also added a community health category to the annual Innovation Awards to recognize programs that encourage active lifestyle programs, nutrition education, and improving access to healthier food choices.



Early childhood education: 2016 president's priority

A PASSIONATE ADVOCATE for early childhood education, Blacksburg Mayor Ron Rordam chose it for the theme for 2016 during his presidency. VML established Stairway to Success to encourage and recognize initiatives that give children tools to enter schools ready to excel. A friendly competition among VML member localities, the program awards points to localities for specific actions that enhance early childhood experience. In October 2016, VML recognized 23 localities that achieved Gold Status in the first year of the Stairway to Success Program. 2017 recipients will be announced next month at the VML annual conference in Williamsburg.



Celebrating success

The Innovation Awards recognize outstanding achievements in local governments across Virginia. Formerly the VML Achievement Awards, the program is 40 years old and is recognized as Virginia's highest honor in local government management. While all of the 2016 nominations were inspiring examples of strong local government in action, a few excelled in wowing VML staff and the judging committee.

The Town of Bridgewater won the Economic Development Award and the top honor, The President's Award, for their Generations Park – a regional recreation destination. In the Infrastructure category, the City of Norton took top honors for a community gateway and walking trail. The City of Newport News received the Public Safety Award for a summer training and enrichment program. A student postcard project earned the Town of Warrenton the Working with Youth Award. The City of Harrisonburg's Safety Sally initiative took home the Communications Award.

Congratulations again to the 2016 recipients. 2017 awardees will be announced Oct. 3 and published in the October issue of Virginia Town & City.

Financial process upgrades

During the 2016-17 fiscal year, VML upgraded and expanded their financial procedures. The League now accepts online payments for events by credit card. The majority of accounting processes are also paperless allowing for quicker access and reducing storage space. The 2015-2016 fiscal audit was completed timely with positive results; the 2016-2017 audit is in the final stages.

Youth outreach

For three years, VML has invited Virginia seventh graders to describe what they would do as mayor to make their cities and towns great places to live. The If I were Mayor essay contest provides students the opportunity to reflect on the important role of elected officials in their own city or town. In January 2017, VML recognized eight winners, awarding each a \$150 cash prize and plaque. Of those, Trey Mitchell of Lawrenceville was designated the statewide winner and received a \$250 prize. The winners, along with their teachers, attended a special ceremony in Richmond with Governor McAuliffe. To date, nearly 3,000 children have participated.

Home for the Holidays

Local ornaments for Governor's mansion are back by popular demand

In the past two years, nearly 200 communities created stunning handmade ornaments that adorned the holiday tree at the Governor's Mansion. Thousands of visitors from across the country toured the mansion and viewed the ornaments, learning about the diverse heritage of Virginia's cities, towns, and counties.

The tree was so popular that the Governor's Mansion has asked VML to once again collect local heritage ornaments from cities and towns to hang on the 2017 holiday tree.

To submit an ornament for the coming holiday season, contact Kelley Hope at khope@vml.org or 804-523-8527. Visit www.vml.org for guidelines for submitting your local heritage ornament.

Show your hometown holiday pride!



Consider serving on the VML Executive Committee

BE PART OF LEADING statewide initiatives for Virginia cities, towns, and counties as a member of the VML Executive Committee. The 13-member VML Executive Committee is made up of local officials from across the Commonwealth and manages all affairs of the League, supervises the executive director and other staff and personnel of the League, and arranges for the Annual Meeting of the League.

The Executive Committee meets four times a year (at the VML annual conference, during VML Day at the Capitol, in May, and in August). VML pays all travel expenses for the May and August meetings. It is expected that the locality pays for VML Day and the VML Annual Conference as usual.

There are three ways to participate on the Executive Committee.

- 1) **Serve as chair of the Urban, Cities, or Towns section.** Seek a position as chair of a section applicable to the locality you serve and represent that section on the VML Executive Committee. This year's section meetings are Monday, October 2 at 1:00 p.m. at the conference in Williamsburg. Nominations for chair and vice-chair are made from the floor during each section's meeting, then the membership of that section votes on the slate.

- 2) **Fill an "at-large" position.** Each year, the Nominating Committee as appointed by the VML President considers candidates to fill two at-large seats. More at-large positions may be available if an individual serving in one becomes an officer.
- 3) **Volunteer for vice president and president-elect.** The Nominating Committee also recommends these officers. While they generally come from individuals with existing Executive Committee service, anyone may apply. By virtue of the VML Constitution, the president-elect automatically moves into the president position.

To apply for an at-large or officer position, request an application by sending a message to e-mail@vml.org.



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**Chair: Susan Hafeli, Utility Analyst,
Fairfax County**

**Secretary/Treasurer: Sandra Harrington,
VML Government Relations Associate**

THE VIRGINIA ENERGY PURCHASING Governmental Association (VEPGA) is a joint powers association created in 2002 pursuant to authority provided in the Virginia Code. VEPGA negotiates multi-year electricity contracts with Dominion Energy on behalf of its members. VEPGA also informs its members of energy developments in Virginia and offers opportunities for members across the Dominion Energy service area to collectively promote their interests and learn from each other.

VEPGA's membership includes approximately 170 cities, towns, counties, school boards, and other public entities. Through membership in VEPGA, local governments in Virginia can negotiate their electricity rates directly with Dominion Energy.

VEPGA is governed by a 15-member Board of Directors that is elected by membership and meets quarterly. While VEPGA's purpose is to negotiate electrical rates for its membership, VEPGA also has established several committees to advance its members' interests.

VEPGA's Joint Action Committee meets quarterly with Dominion to identify and resolve operational issues, including those involving construction and streetlighting. Meetings of VEPGA's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Committee include presentations on topics including best practices and emerging technologies, while VEPGA's Innovative Supply

Side Initiatives Committee explores alternative energy options of interest to VEPGA members.

VEPGA's annual spring meeting offers sessions that address educational, technical, and policy topics, as well as opportunities to meet and network with energy professionals from across the Dominion Energy service area.

The current VEPGA contract with Dominion Energy was executed in 2014 and expires June 30, 2018. For the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 period, electric rates negotiated by VEPGA are estimated to save members at least \$36.5 million on an annual basis, or about an eight percent overall reduction as compared to what VEPGA members would pay if their rates were set by the Virginia State Corporation Commission. Annual savings include \$6.2 million in base rates achieved as a result of 2014 contract negotiations; \$7.4 million in fuel savings due to a monthly, rather than annual, calculation; and \$22.9 million attributable to Dominion Energy riders and rate adjustment clauses.

The VEPGA contract includes rate schedules designed to offer electrical service options for facilities that range from a small, house-sized office building to large school campuses. Schedules address small, medium, and large accounts according to energy usage, all-electric buildings, pumping stations, and traffic control, street, and roadway lighting. The contract also provides a low-cost option for the purchase of renewable energy credits.

Learn more at www.vepga.org.



**President: A. K. Briele, Electric Department Director,
City of Salem**

**Executive Secretary/Treasurer: Michelle Gowdy, VML
General Counsel**

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC Power Association of Virginia (MEPAV), founded in 1954, is made up of 16 localities that operate their own electric systems across the Commonwealth. As an association, MEPAV meets the needs of its members by providing information and support in an effort to provide reliable and low-cost energy to their customers.

One of its main purposes is to foster a continuing spirit of cooperation among Virginia municipalities operating their own electric utilities. By collaborating on issues of technical and non-technical natures, all utilities within the membership benefit from the knowledge and experiences of others.

In addition to regular quarterly business meetings, MEPAV also hosts engineering and operations workshops for members to learn and share information. The Annual Business Meeting, held in Virginia Beach, educates members and their Boards and Commissions on trends within the industry on a broader scale as well as provides a great opportunity for networking among the attendees.

Additionally, MEPAV lobbies on behalf of member

localities at the state level on regulatory issues that affect them and their abilities to achieve these goals. Legislative consultant Thomas Dick has lobbied on several issues recently that had the potential to impact these municipalities. Such issues have ranged from solar net metering to pole attachment legislature that would have allowed wireless service providers access to utility poles. Ultimately, he was able to exempt MEPAV members from the pole attachment legislation.

Member localities include Bedford, Blackstone, Bristol, Culpeper, Danville, Elkton, Franklin, Front Royal, Harrisonburg, Manassas, Martinsville, Radford, Richlands, Salem, Virginia Tech, and Wakefield. MEPAV and its members are all affiliates of the American Public Power Association (APPA) which also advocates for over 2000 municipal utilities across the United States.

MEPAV is also supported by its associate membership that consists of vendors, consultants, and other firms that provide goods and services needed for the localities to operate their systems in the most effective manner.

Learn more at www.mepav.org.



**President: Maurice T. Jones, City Manager,
City of Charlottesville**

**Executive Secretary: Janet Areson,
VML Director of Policy Development**

IN 1987, THE VIRGINIA SECTION of the International City Management Association (now International City/County Management Association – ICMA) and the Virginia Association of County Administrators joined forces to become the Virginia Local Government Management Association (VLGMA).

From 1987 to 2017, VLGMA has given local government management professionals a forum for professional development, networking and peer support, civic engagement, and as a platform for efforts to nurture the next generation of the profession. Moving forward, the Association intends to build on this platform to help its members and their communities grow in knowledge and resilience to meet the ever-changing challenges confronting them.

VLGMA offers training to its members through two conferences each year, as well as access to ICMA coaching program webinars and communications, and twice-yearly programs for local government management deputies, assistants, and other staff with an interest in professional management. Recent conference training offerings included sessions on the ethics of relationship building, community policing, and inclusive leadership, cyber security, building financial resiliency, and leading cultural change in an organization.

As another way to promote professional development, each year VLGMA awards to a member a scholarship to the Senior Executive Institute (SEI) in Charlottesville. This year's scholarship was awarded to Gloucester Deputy County Administrator Garrey W. Curry Jr.

VLGMA promotes civic engagement in a number of ways, including promotion of local government education week in Virginia each April. Several localities participate by approving resolutions commemorating the week, holding visits to classrooms to talk about local government, and providing educational materials to local schools.

Finally, VLGMA continues to honor its commitment to developing the next generation of the profession by supporting a scholarship program for the Local Government Certificate Program at Virginia Tech. VLGMA founded the Certificate Program in conjunction with Virginia Tech in 2008, and several members of the Association have participated as students, served as instructors, or both. Courses are broadcast to Tech's Commonwealth Campus Centers in 11 communities across the state, and students participate via two-way videoconferencing.

VLGMA includes in its membership about 375 local government professionals representing Virginia's cities, towns, and counties, as well as regional authorities and commissions.



**President: David C. Beahm,
CBO, Building Official, Warren County**

**Executive Director: Sandra Harrington,
VML Government Relations Associate**

THE VIRGINIA BUILDING and Code Officials Association (VBCOA) is a statewide network of more than 1,000 building safety professionals dedicated to the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of all persons who live, work, or visit the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Since 1929, VBCOA has worked to foster relationships with groups dedicated to promoting safety and the uniform interpretation and enforcement of regulations. VBCOA initiatives for VBCOA members and allied professionals include technical and leadership training such as the VBCOA New Residential Structures for Home Inspectors (NRS) course.

VBCOA also offers student and public outreach programs such as the High School Technical Training Program. This training program brings International Code Council code certification to high school students in building trades, architectural drafting, and vocational training programs throughout Virginia.

In 2017, VBCOA awarded certificates of achievements to 79 students who received a passing grade on the technical training program's exam. Students from the Town of Abingdon, the City of Winchester, and Carroll, Clarke, Fredrick, Grayson, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Tazewell and Wythe counties received recognition. With 17 participating schools and additional schools pending, Virginia continues to lead the nation in this program.

In addition, VBCOA also recognized and rewarded a high school educator for promoting the High School Technical Training Program. For his program at Oscar Smith High School in Chesapeake, Thomas Siler received a free registration to the Virginia Code Education Conference (VCEC) held in Charlottesville. The three-day conference provided a variety of training opportunities, networking, and exhibitors.

For more information about VBCOA, visit www.vbcoa.org.

Virginia Municipal League staff

Leslie Amason
*Conference and Marketing
Coordinator*

Janet Areson
Director of Policy Development

Sherall Dementi
Special Projects Coordinator

Patrick Ford
Press Operator/Clerk

Michelle Gowdy
General Counsel

Sandra Harrington
Government Relations Associate

Kelley Hope
Communications Specialist

Michael Polychrones
Director of Member Services

Joni Terry
Office Coordinator

Manuel Timbreza
Communications Specialist



2017 Nominating Committee

Chair: Ron Rordam, Mayor, Town of Blacksburg

Trent Crewe, Mayor, Town of Wytheville

Ed Daley, Assistant City Manager, City of Emporia

Jay Fisette, Vice Chair County Board, Arlington County

F. Woodrow Harris, Council Member, City of Emporia

David Helms, Mayor, Town of Marion

Earl Reynolds, Deputy City Manager, City of Danville

Rosemary Wilson, Council Member, City of Virginia Beach

Harry C. "Chuck" Mason, Mayor, Town of Orange

William M. "Billy" Yowell, Council Member,
Town of Culpeper

Joan F. Foster, Mayor, City of Lynchburg

Mary Katherine Greenlaw, Mayor, City of Fredericksburg

Lisa C. Merkel, Mayor, Town of Herndon

Don Harris, Mayor, Town of Bluefield

Ted Byrd, Council Member, City of Harrisonburg

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VML Member Local Governments

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Bristol
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Charlottesville
Chesapeake
Colonial Heights
Covington
Danville
Emporia
Fairfax
Falls Church
Franklin
Fredericksburg
Galax
Hampton
Harrisonburg
Hopewell
Lexington
Lynchburg
Manassas
Manassas Park
Martinsville
Newport News
Norfolk
Norton
Petersburg
Poquoson
Portsmouth
Radford
Richmond
Roanoke
Salem
Staunton
Suffolk
Virginia Beach

Waynesboro
Williamsburg
Winchester

Towns

Abingdon
Accomac
Alberta
Altavista
Amherst
Appomattox
Ashland
Bedford
Berryville
Big Stone Gap
Blacksburg
Blackstone
Bluefield
Boones Mill
Bowling Green
Boydton
Boykins
Branchville
Bridgewater
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Buchanan
Burkeville
Cape Charles
Capron
Cedar Bluff
Charlotte Court
House
Chase City
Chatham
Cheriton

Chilhowie
Chincoteague
Christiansburg
Claremont
Clarksville
Clifton
Clifton Forge
Clintwood
Coeburn
Colonial Beach
Courtland
Craigs ville
Crewe
Culpeper
Damascus
Dayton
Dillwyn
Drakes Branch
Dublin
Duffield
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Floyd
Fries
Front Royal
Gate City
Glade Spring
Glasgow
Gordonsville
Gretna
Grottoes
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Herndon
Hillsville
Hurt
Independence
Iron Gate
Irvington
Ivor
Jarratt
Jonesville
Kenbridge
Keysville
Kilmarnock
La Crosse
Lawrenceville
Lebanon
Leesburg
Louisa
Lovettsville
Luray
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Mineral
Monterey
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Mount Crawford
Mount Jackson
Narrows
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Onley
Orange
Painter
Pamplin
Parksley
Pearisburg
Pembroke
Pennington Gap
Phenix
Port Royal
Pound
Pulaski
Purcellville
Quantico
Remington
Rich Creek
Richlands
Ridgeway
Rocky Mount
Round Hill
Rural Retreat
Saint Paul
Saltville
Scottsville
Shenandoah
Smithfield
South Boston
South Hill
Stanardsville
Stanley
Stephens City
Stony Creek
Strasburg
Stuart
Tangier

Tappahannock
Tazewell
The Plains
Timberville
Toms Brook
Troutville
Urbanna
Victoria
Vienna
Vinton
Wachapreague
Wakefield
Warrenton
Warsaw
Washington
Waverly
Weber City
West Point
White Stone
Windsor
Wise
Woodstock
Wytheville

Counties

Albemarle
Alleghany
Arlington
Loudoun
Prince George
Roanoke

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VML Legislative and Policy Committees

Twenty-four local officials from diverse localities are appointed each year by the VML president to serve on VML's legislative committee. Committee members develop positions on legislation and urge the enactment, amendment, or opposition to a variety of legislative initiatives. Another 163 local officials work on the VML policy committees. They help to shape the broader policies and make specific legislative recommendations to the Legislative Committee.

All localities are encouraged to participate on policy committees. Nomination forms are sent to each locality in the spring. Let a VML staff member know of your interest or send an email to e-mail@vml.org and we will follow up with you.

Legislative Committee

Chair: Don Harris, Mayor, Town of Bluefield

Vice Chair: Roger Fawcett, Council Member, City of Suffolk

City Section

Andrea Oakes, Council Member, City of Staunton

Mary Person, Mayor, City of Emporia

Dan Sze, Council Member, City of Falls Church

Gene Teague, Mayor, City of Martinsville

Billy Withers, Council Member, City of Fredericksburg

Benny Zhang, Council Member, City of Williamsburg

Town Section

Jim Bradley, Council Member, Town of Gordonsville

Don Harris, Mayor, Town of Bluefield

Phil Miskovic, Council Member, Town of Crewe

Sheila Olem, Council Member, Town of Herndon

Edward Owens, Mayor, Town of South Boston

Bill Rush, Town Manager, Town of Marion

Urban Section

Ted Byrd, Council Member, City of Harrisonburg

Katie Cristol, Board Member, County of Arlington

Roger Fawcett, Council Member, City of Suffolk

Raphael "Ray" Ferris, Council Member, City of Roanoke

John Gilstrap, Mayor, City of Danville

Robert Ike, Council Member, City of Chesapeake

Shannon Kane, Council Member, City of Virginia Beach

John Rowe, Mayor, City of Portsmouth

Thomas R. Smigiel, Jr., Council Member, City of Norfolk

Christine Snead, Councilwoman, City of Hampton

Levar Stoney, Mayor, City of Richmond

Tina L. Vick, Vice Mayor, City of Newport News

Community & Economic Development Policy Committee

Chair: W. T. "Bill" Rush III, Town Manager, Town of Marion

Vice Chair: Sunny Reynolds, Vice Mayor, Town of Warrenton

Richard Baugh, Vice Mayor, City of Harrisonburg

Jennifer Baker, Vice Mayor, Town of Herndon

Wayne Bowers, Director of Economic Development, City of Roanoke

Krishna Chachra, Council Member, Town of Blacksburg

John Chapman, Council Member, City of Alexandria

Michael DeMarco, Council Member, City of Fairfax

Karen Epps, Director of Economic Development, City of Colonial Heights

Adam Fletcher, Director of Comm.

Development, City of Harrisonburg

Mark Gaines, Council Member, Town of Bowling Green

W. Joe Green, Council Member, City of Colonial Heights

Elizabeth Via-Gossman, Comm. Dev. Director, City of Manassas

W. H. Hobbs, Council Member, City of Hampton

Sharon Hodge, Council Member, City of Martinsville

Ophie Kier, Vice Mayor, City of Staunton

Stephanie Landrum, Council Member, City of Alexandria

Keith Liles, Council Member, Town of Vinton

Christopher Morrison, Council Member, Town of Front Royal

Richard Peters, Assist. Town Mgr./Econ. Dev. Director, Town of Vinton

Fred Ramey, City Manager, City of Norton

Pranas Rimeikis, Council Member, Town of Culpeper

W. T. Rush, Town Manager, Town of Marion

William Sealock, Council Member, Town of Front Royal

Noah Simon, City Manager, City of Lexington

Sally Thompson, Council Member, Town of Farmville

David Trinkle, Council Member, City of Roanoke

Tina Vick, Vice Mayor, City of Newport News

Lue Ward, Council Member, City of Suffolk

Kent White, Community Development Director, City of Lynchburg

David Whitus, Mayor, Town of Farmville

Mark Wolfe, Council Member, City of Manassas

Environmental Quality Policy Committee

Chair: Daniel Sze, Council Member, City of Falls Church

Vice Chair: TBA

Christopher Blakeman, Environmental

Administrator, City of Roanoke

Saundra Cherry, Council Member, City of Newport News

Mike Collins, Public Utilities Director, City of Harrisonburg

Erik Curren, Council Member, City of Staunton

Tony Dawood, Director of Utilities, City of Manassas

Ken Elston, Council Member, City of Manassas
Andrew Greear, Acting Water Plant Supt., City of Norton

Martin Hauser, Council Member, Town of Bowling Green

William Henley, Public Works Director, City of Colonial Heights

George Hirschmann, Council Member, City of Harrisonburg

Timothy Johnson, Council Member, City of Suffolk

Anita McMillan, Planning Director, Town of Vinton

Timothy Mitchell, Public Utilities Director, City of Lynchburg

Eric Monday, City Attorney, City of Martinsville

Turner Perrow, Council Member, City of Lynchburg

Janet Scheid, Council Member, Town of Vinton

Teresa Schmidt Council Member, City of Hampton

Jon Stehle, Council Member, City of Fairfax

Joseph Waltz, Town Manager, Town of Front Royal

Doris White, Council Member, City of Emporia

Finance Policy Committee

Chair: Christine Snead, Council Member, City of Hampton

Vice Chair: Bill Hartley, Mayor, City of Bristol

Sheryl Bass, Council Member, City of Manassas

Anne Cantrell, Finance Director (Interim), Town of Vinton

Barbara Dameron, Director of Finance, City of Roanoke

Bryan Foster, Deputy City Manager, City of Manassas

Susan Goodwin, Finance Director, City of Newport News

Matthew Hare, Vice Mayor, Town of Vinton

Terry Holmes, Council Member, City of Staunton

Gregory Kochuba, Mayor, City of Colonial Heights

Jacob Meza, Council Member, Town of Front Royal

Curtis Milteer, Council Member, City of Suffolk

Larry Propst, Director of Finance, City of Harrisonburg

James Saunders, Council Member, City of Emporia

Eleanor Schmidt, Council Member, City of Fairfax

Jeffery Shupe, Director of Finance, City of Norton

Gene Teague, Mayor, City of Martinsville

Brian Thrower, City Manager, City of Emporia

Leon Towarnicki, City Manager, City of Martinsville

BJ Wilson, Interim Finance Director, Town of Front Royal

Donna Witt, Director of Financial Services, City of Lynchburg

General Laws Policy Committee

Chair: Phil Miskovic, Council Member, Town of Crewe

Vice Chair: Jonathan "Bucky" Miller, Mayor, Town of Mount Jackson

William Bradshaw, City Attorney, City of Norton

Chris Brown, City Attorney, City of Harrisonburg

Daniel Callaghan, City Attorney, City of Roanoke
 John Connolly, Council Member, Town of Front Royal
 Linda Curtis, Vice Mayor, City of Hampton
 Thomas Foster, Police Chief, Town of Vinton
 Donald Goldberg, Council Member, City of Suffolk
 David Hankley, Comm. of Revenue/Fire Chief, City of Galax
 James Harrington, Council Member, City of Staunton
 Donald Hunter, Council Member, Town of Farmville
 Deborah Lynch, Council Member, City of Emporia
 Chad Martin, Vice Mayor, City of Martinsville
 David Meyer, Mayor, City of Fairfax
 Bill McKenna, Council Member, Town of Herndon
 Doug Napier, Town Attorney, Town of Front Royal
 Sheila Olem, Council Member, Town of Herndon
 Mary Person, Mayor, City of Emporia
 Deanna Reed, Mayor, City of Harrisonburg
 Jon Russell, Council Member, Town of Culpeper
 Sharon Scott, Council Member, City of Newport News
 Donald Shuemaker, Council Member, City of Manassas Park
 Leslie Hager-Smith, Vice Mayor, Town of Blacksburg
 Barry Thompson, Town Manager, Town of Vinton
 John Wood, Council Member, City of Colonial Heights

Human Development Policy Committee

Chair: Shannon Kane, Council Member, City of Virginia Beach
Vice Chair: Charles Frye, Council Member, City of Fredericksburg

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 Alexander Banks, Deputy City Manager, City of Harrisonburg
 Jennifer Bowles, Council Member, City of Martinsville
 Leroy Bennett, Vice Mayor, City of Suffolk
 Carolyn Carey, Council Member, City of Emporia
 Hector Cedejas, Council Member, City of Manassas Park
 Jamie Clancey, Council Member, Town of Culpeper
 Lisa Clark, Vice Mayor, City of Buena Vista
 Donna Collins, Human Resources Director, Town of Vinton
 Bradley Grose, Mayor, Town of Vinton
 Marcellus Harris, Council Member, City of Newport News
 Christopher Jones, Council Member, City of Harrisonburg
 Ronald King, Director of Family Services, City of Manassas
 Ian Lovejoy, Council Member, City of Manassas

Elizabeth Luck, Vice Mayor, City of Colonial Heights
 Janice Miller, Council Member, City of Fairfax
 Andrea Oakes, Council Member, City of Staunton
 Anita James Price, Vice Mayor, City of Roanoke
 Stephanie Moon Reynolds, City Clerk City of Roanoke
 A. D. Reid, Vice Mayor, Town of Farmville
 Terry Short, Vice Mayor, City of Waynesboro
 L. Dale Temple, Council Member, City of Emporia
 Donnie Tuck, Mayor, City of Hampton
 Gina Wolford, Interim School Superintendent, City of Norton

Transportation Policy Committee

Chair: Ted Byrd, Council Member, City of Harrisonburg
Vice Chair: Timothy Lovain, Council Member, City of Alexandria

Ted Byrd, Council Member, City of Harrisonburg
 Steve Burke, Director of Public Works, City of Manassas
 Roger Fawcett, Council Member, City of Suffolk
 Kenneth Frenier, Council Member, City of Colonial Heights
 James Gray, Council Member, City of Hampton
 Jeffrey Greenfield, Council Member, City of Fairfax
 Gaynelle Hart, Public Works Director, City of Lynchburg
 Joey Hiner, Public Works Director, Town of Vinton
 Mark Jamison, Transportation Div. Mgr., City of Roanoke
 Yon Lambert, Dir. of DOT & Env. Svs., City of Alexandria
 Kathy Lawson, Council Member, City of Martinsville
 Sabrina McCarty, Council Member, Town of Vinton
 Steve McElroy, Public Works Director, City of Norton
 Will Moffett, Council Member, City of Hampton
 Lee Newland, City Engineer, City of Lynchburg
 Walter Obenschain, Council Member, City of Staunton
 Pamela Sebesky, Council Member, City of Manassas
 Reggie Smith, Director of Transportation, City of Harrisonburg
 Michael Sutphin, Council Member, Town of Blacksburg
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 Hollis Tharpe, Mayor, Town of Front Royal
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- Sept. 18** Virginia Partnership for Out-of School Time 2017 Conference, Newport News
- Sept. 19** Building Healthy Economies Through Healthy Communities Webinar
- Sept. 30 - Oct. 1** Virginia Mayors Institute, Williamsburg
- Oct. 1 - 3** 2017 VML annual conference, Williamsburg
- Oct. 4 - 5** Smart Cities Week, Washington, D.C.
- Oct. 15 - 17** VBCOA school and conference, Virginia Beach
- Nov. 15 - 18** NLC City Summit, Charlotte, N.C.



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