



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH &  
OPPORTUNITY**  
IN EACH REGION

# Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board

Business Meeting

April 21, 2022

Delta Hotel Marriott, Richmond, VA



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
*Partners for Better Communities*



# Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Consent Agenda
3. Chair's Report
4. Director's Report
5. Staff Report
6. Budget/Legislative Update
7. Information Items
8. Adjournment



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# Opening

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Public Comment



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# Consent Agenda – Action Item

- December 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- March 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- Regional Growth and Diversification Plan Approval
- Regional Council Certification
- Existing Project Contract Modifications Request – Request for Contract Modification (Match Waiver) with Region 5’s Virginia Digital Shipbuilding and Virginia Cyber Alliance



# Chair's Report



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- Establishment of Workgroup for Regional Council Leadership Engagement Workgroup
- Establishment of Workgroup for GO Virginia Fund Resource Utilization
- Establishment of Workgroup for Talent Pathways Initiative



# Director's Report

- Action Item: Per Capita Applications (5)
- Action Item: Economic Resilience and Recovery Application (1)
- Regional and Statewide Project Pipeline



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# ■ ■ Per Capita Applications

- 5 Proposals to Take Action On
- 4 out of 9 Regions Participated
- 3 Workforce Development Projects and 2 Startup Ecosystem Projects



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**Total Request:**  
\$2,998,834

**Total Match:**  
\$2,120,916

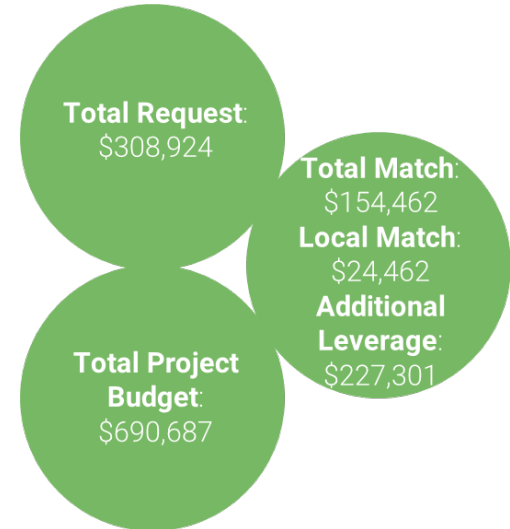
**Local Match:**  
\$146,816

# Region 1: GO TEC

- **Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development
- **Goal:** To Pilot GO TEC Career Connections labs at Carroll County Middle School, Grayson County Middle School, and one middle school in Wythe County Public Schools.
- **Outcomes:**
  - 450 students enrolled
  - 150 credentials awarded over 3 years,
  - 2 new career pathways implemented at each high school
  - 10 business agreements for apprenticeships or internships
  - 50 students enrolled in apprenticeships/internships
  - 50 students who enter workforce post GO TEC training
  - 50 students enrolled in post-secondary programs.



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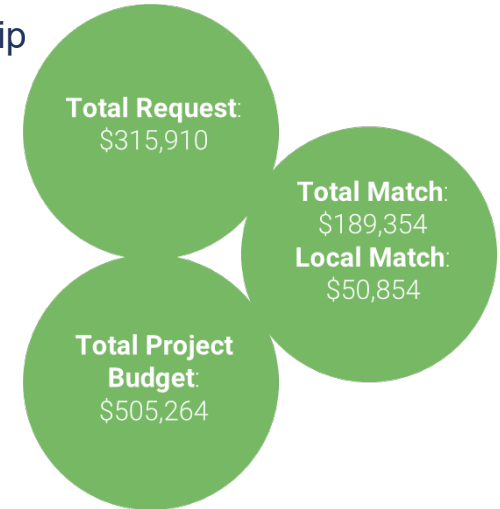


# Region 2: Regional Talent Strategy Implementation



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- **Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development
- **Goal:** To implement a regional talent strategy in the Roanoke Valley and Alleghany Highlands in partnership with the Roanoke Regional Partnership (RRP) focused on career awareness and career pathways, talent development, talent attraction and retention, and collaboration and leadership.
- **Outcomes:**
  - 50 students trained
  - 100 businesses served
  - 20 employees upskilled
  - 40 jobs created/filled through work-based learning

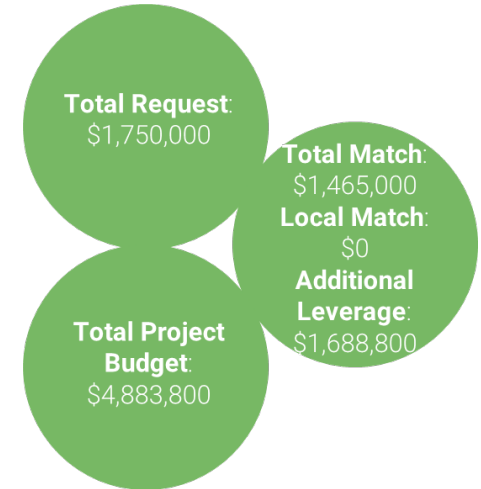


# Region 7: Security University Foundation ACER Project



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- **Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development
- **Goal:** To support creation, training, and expansion of the ACER Accelerated Cybersecurity Experiential-lab Residency workforce pipeline in Region 7.
- **Outcomes:**
  - ACER program curriculum to be available to all under a Creative Commons licensing agreement
  - 350 businesses served
  - 2,100 credentials awarded
  - 350 students trained

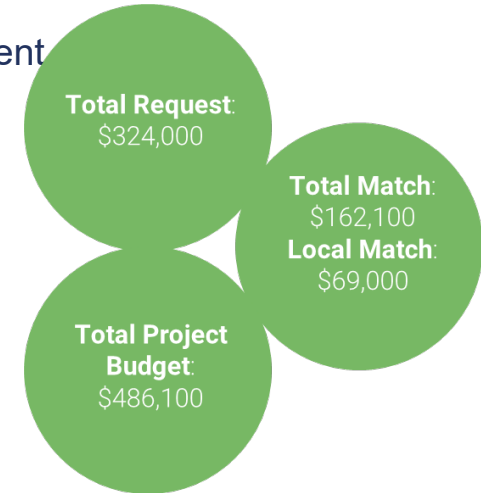


# Region 2: Workforce and Entrepreneurship Initiatives in a Regional Makerspace



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- Investment Strategy: Workforce Development/Startup Ecosystem
- Goal: To facilitate the implementation of expanded programming and equipment at the Vector Space centered around workforce development entrepreneurship for underserved populations.
- Outcomes:
  - 10 students trained
  - 4 businesses created
  - 30 jobs created within 3 years
  - 65 jobs created within 5 years

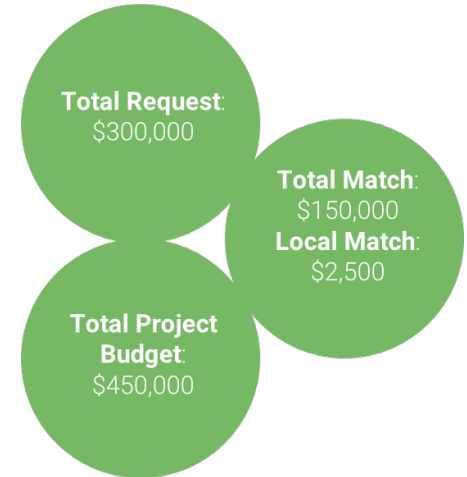


# Region 4: Activation Capital REI



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- Investment Strategy: Startup Ecosystem
- Goal: To develop a strategy for defining and implementing recommendations to further grow the Region 4 entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- Outcomes:
  - Consolidation of recent ecosystem research and reports
  - Map of all Region 4 assets
  - Gap analysis to identify areas for ecosystem improvement and opportunities
  - A plan for addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion within the ecosystem
  - A list of prioritized short and long term projects to undertake after grant period, with sustainable funding mechanisms identified

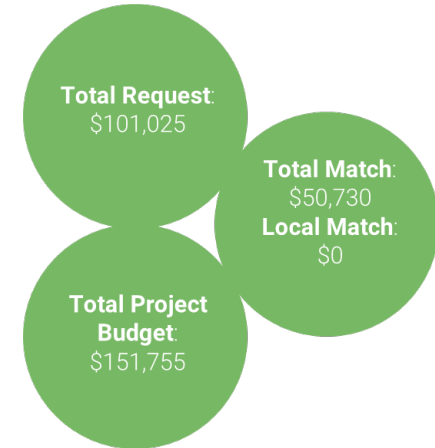


# Region 1: Mountain Empire Community College Project WELD

- Investment Strategy: Startup Ecosystem
- Goal: To create a welding certification program through a collaboration between MECC, VA Dept. of Corrections Wise Correctional Unit, and regional employers in manufacturing and industrial sectors.
- Outcomes:
  - 65 students trained in 6 cohorts
  - 52 program completers
  - 42 industry credentials earned
  - 35 completers achieving gainful employment



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# Regional and Statewide Project Pipeline



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# Staff Report



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- Council Leadership Input Sessions
  - Memo: Consensus Recommendations & Requested Actions
  - Action Item: Extension of Policy #11 Modified Match Per Capita Requests through June 30, 2023
  - Action Item: Adoption of Policy #13 Match for Statewide Competitive Projects Due to Extraordinary Economic Opportunity



# Budget/Legislative Update



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# Caboose Budget (HB29/SB29)

- **Governor's Introduced:** No changes
- **Senate Version:** No changes
- **House Version:**
  - Reverts \$27.5 million in unobligated GO Virginia balances to support several commerce initiatives included in House Bill 29 & 30.
    - GO Virginia balances totaled \$53.6 million at end of Q2 FY 2022
  - \$2.5 million from unobligated GOVA funds from HB29 allocated to the Virginia Office of Education Economics to provide planning grants to GO Virginia Regional Councils for workforce skills gap analysis



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## House Bill 30/Senate Bill 30 FY2022 -FY2024

- **Gov's Introduced:** Maintains 30 million/FY (\$60 million total) for the GO Virginia program.



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## Senate Bill 30 FY2022-FY2024

- **Senate Version:** Maintains 30 million/FY (\$60 million total) for the GO Virginia program.



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## House Bill 30 FY2022-FY2024

- **House Version:** Maintains 30 million/FY (\$60 million total) for the GO Virginia program.
  - *New spending:* \$9.0 million to establish and funds a new "talent pathways" development initiative.
  - *Funded via HB29 unobligated GOVA funds:*
    - \$5.0 million in GF FY2023 for VEDP to develop a program to strengthen offshore wind supply chains
    - \$15.7 from in GF FY2023 to renovate an existing facility in the Roanoke Innovation Corridor to facilitate development of new biotechnology companies in southwestern Virginia.
  - *Language:* GO Virginia language authorizing reallocation of regional allocations



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## Chapter 137 (HB 654)

- GO Virginia Grants; extends sunset provision.
  - Extends from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023, the sunset of the provision that allows a locality to use grant funds awarded by the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission (TRRC) as matching funds for GO Virginia grants.
    - § 2.2-2489 of the Code of Virginia prohibits state funds for match requirement
    - Chapter 525 provided an exception for TRRC funds as eligible match for Go Virginia Region 1, 2, 3 or 4
    - HB 654 further extends the sunset date to July 1, 2023
  - Passed House (99 Y, 0 N) and Senate (38 Y, 2 N)



# Information Items – Part 1

- Regional Council Program Recommendation Letters
- Memo: Unobligated Fund Balances



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## Information Items – Part 2

- DHCD Approved Enhanced Capacity Building Projects and Technical Amendments
  - Region 3: VGA Refresh/Restart: A Strategy for Regional Economic Development in Southern Virginia
  - Region 6: Internship Expo & Hiring Workshops
  - Region 6: Promoting Careers in Aquaculture
  - Region 3: Strategy and Roadmap for Growing the Controlled Environmental Agriculture (CEA) Sector



# Information Items – Part 3

- Awarded Project Summary
- Cancelled Projects
  - Region 2 – Picks TM
  - Region 4 – Rowanty
  - Region 7 – 2030 Initiative



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# Adjournment



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