



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Department of Housing  
and Community Development

**For Immediate Release**

March 19, 2014

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### ***Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development announces Virginia Main Street Milestone Achievement Awards***

*– Virginia communities recognized for downtown revitalization efforts –*

**RICHMOND** – The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) announced today the Virginia Main Street Program Milestone Achievement Awards to designated Virginia Main Street communities. The awards were presented at a luncheon at Richmond's historic Hippodrome Theater.

Main Street communities and organizations were recognized for achieving notable milestones in volunteer contribution, private investment and building rehabilitation. The Partnership for Warrenton Foundation was also recognized for 25 years of membership in the Virginia Main Street program.

Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice Jones spoke to the audience of more than 90 downtown revitalization volunteers and professionals about the visible results of their hard work. "This year, you have been thinking outside of the box and using entrepreneurship as a keystone to successful downtown revitalization," said Secretary Jones. "With entrepreneur development strategies like business boot camps and even an Ideospace, you are bringing new ventures and amazing growth to your downtowns."

DHCD Director Bill Shelton pointed to downtown progress through the numbers. "In the last five years, designated Main Street communities have sparked more than \$217 million in private investment in their districts." Shelton continued, "As a result, last year, there was a net collective gain of 453 jobs across the 26 Main Street downtown districts."

Below is a list of award recipients:

#### **Volunteerism Milestone Achievement Awards**

##### ***1,000 Volunteer Hours***

Believe in Bristol

##### ***5,000 Volunteer Hours***

Farmville Downtown Partnership

St. Paul Main Street

**15,000 Volunteer Hours**

Altavista On Track

**20,000 Volunteer Hours**

Luray Downtown Initiative Inc.

Marion Downtown!

Destination Downtown South Boston

**25,000 Volunteer Hours**

Berryville Main Street

**30,000 Volunteer Hours**

Culpeper Renaissance Inc.

**35,000 Volunteer Hours**

Old Towne Development Board (Winchester)

**50,000 Volunteer Hours**

Downtown Franklin Association

**85,000 Volunteer Hours**

Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance

**95,000 Volunteer Hours**

Lynch's Landing Foundation

**100,000 Volunteer Hours**

Staunton Downtown Development Association

**Private Investment Milestone Achievement Awards**

***\$5 Million in Private Investment***

Abingdon Main Street and the town of Abingdon

***\$20 Million in Private Investment***

Martinsville Uptown Revitalization Association and the city of Martinsville

***\$25 Million in Private Investment***

Berryville Main Street and the town of Berryville

***\$55 Million in Private Investment***

Culpeper Renaissance Inc. and the town of Culpeper

Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance and the city of Harrisonburg

Staunton Downtown Development Association and the city of Staunton

***\$110 Million in Private Investment***

Lynch's Landing Foundation and the city of Lynchburg

**Building Improvement Milestone Achievement Awards**

***250 Building Projects***

Destination Downtown South Boston and the town of South Boston

**Special Achievement Awards**

Destination Downtown South Boston

**25 Years of Main Street**

Partnership for Warrenton Foundation and the town of Warrenton

The Virginia Main Street program, managed by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, provides assistance and training to help communities increase the economic vitality of their downtown commercial districts. Virginia Main Street uses the National Main Street model to help communities revitalize their downtowns by focusing on their unique heritage and attributes. The program helps communities implement a comprehensive revitalization strategy that creates economic growth and pride in downtowns.

For more information about the Virginia Main Street program, call (804) 371-7030 or visit [www.dhcd.virginia.gov/MainStreet](http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/MainStreet).

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