



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

**VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD PROGRAM PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION
COMMITTEE**

January 24, 2024

4:00 PM

Virtual

Members Present

Todd Stottlemeyer

Leah Fremouw

Cliff Fleet

Jim Dyke

Members Absent

Call to Order

Mr. Todd Stottlemeyer, Chair of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board Program Performance and Evaluation Committee, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Mr. Billy Gammel, GO Virginia Program Administrator for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll, and stated that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

Mr. Stottlemeyer opened the floor for public comment.

No members of the public appeared before the Committee for the public comment period.

The public comment period was closed.

Discussion Items

Ms. Sara Dunnigan provided the Committee with an overview of the details surrounding performance, accountability, evaluation, and reporting of outcomes related to a specific subset of JLARC recommendations. Ms. Dunnigan provided an overview of the GO Virginia program related to economic impact or outcomes, definitions of outcomes, and the reporting and closeout processes.

A detailed review of the subset of JLARC recommendations related to this Committee adopting a formal recommendation to the Board was Ms. Dunnigan. These included the following. 1) The

Department of Housing and Community Development should change its “number of jobs created/filled” outcome measure for the GO Virginia program by (i) splitting the criteria into separate “jobs created” and “jobs filled” measures, (ii) removing the “estimated” and “expected” qualifiers so that only actual jobs created or filled are counted, and (iii) clarifying that any jobs created or filled must be clearly attributable to the project’s activities, and the method for attributing jobs created or filled must be clearly explained in the project contract and reports.

noting that the Committee will be charged with taking action on the JLARC recommendations at the March meeting of the Committee in advance of reporting those recommendations to the State Board at its March regular meeting. 2) The Department of Housing and Community Development should revise the Core Grant Outcomes list for GO Virginia projects to ensure that outcome measures are narrow enough to avoid mixing different program activities, are clearly defined, and are appropriate and specific to the project type. 3) The Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board should revise its policies to assign responsibility for the review of outcome calculation methods and outcome data verification to staff at the Department of Housing and Community Development. 4) The Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board should develop and implement a policy to assess the long-term impact of individual projects and the GO Virginia program as a whole, including which information should be collected to facilitate this long-term assessment. The board’s actions should proceed under the guidance of its new project evaluation committee and with the assistance and input of Department of Housing and Community Development staff and regional council support staff.

For the next steps, Ms. Dunnigan would like the Committee’s permission to reach out to the regional support organizations on how to ensure outcome definitions are clear and the data collection being reported by the subgrantees is of high quality in preparation of the next Committee meeting in March.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.