

AGENDA
BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Monday, April 2, 2018
Glen Allen, VA
10:00 a.m.

- | | | |
|-------|--|------------------------------|
| I. | OPENING | |
| | a. Call to Order | Chairman |
| | b. Roll Call | Kyle Flanders |
| II. | Consent Agenda | Chairman |
| | ▪ Approval of July 17, 2017 minutes | |
| III. | ENTERPRISE ZONE PERIODIC REVIEW | DHCD staff |
| | <i>Action Item</i> | |
| IV. | CONSOLIDATED PLAN | Pam Kestner |
| V. | Industrial Revitalization Fund/Private Activity Bond
UPDATE PROCESS | Jeff Sadler/Kyle
Flanders |
| VI. | UNFINISHED BUSINESS | Committee members |
| VII. | NEW BUSINESS | Committee members |
| VIII. | COMMITTEE MATTERS | Committee members |
| IX. | ADJOURNMENT | Chairman |

AGENDA

BOARD OF HOUSING and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Monday, April 2, 2018

Glen Allen, VA

To begin directly after the conclusion of the Housing and Community Development Committee

- I. OPENING
 - a. Call to Order Chairman
 - b. Roll Call Kyle Flanders
 - c. Public Comment Chairman

- II. CONSENT AGENDA Chairman
 - o *Approval of Minutes*: January 22, 2018

- III. Report of the Housing and Community Development Committee Shekar Narasimhan
 - Action Item*
Enterprise Zone Periodic Review

- IV. RESOLUTION Chairman

- V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE DHCD Staff

- VI. REPORTS AND INFORMATION
 - a. VHDA Report Susan Dewey
 - b. Report of the Virginia Fire Services Board Sean Farrell
 - c. Report of the Director Erik Johnston

- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS Board members

- VIII. NEW BUSINESS Board members

- IX. BOARD MATTERS Board members

- X. FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES Erik Johnston
 - o May 21, 2018
 - Housing & CD Committee

- XI. ADJOURNMENT Chairman

BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
10:00 A.M., July 17, 2017
Glen Allen, Virginia

Members Present

Mr. John Ainslie
Mr. John Patrick "J.P." Carr
Ms. Susan Dewey
Ms. Helen Hardiman
Mr. Shekar Narasimhan
Mr. Earl Reynolds
Mr. Tommy Shields

Members Absent

Mr. Roger McLellon
Mr. Steve Semones

Call to Order

Mr. Shekar Narasimhan, Vice Chairman of the Housing and Community Development Committee, called the meeting of the Committee to order.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Mr. Kyle Flanders of the Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) Policy Office. Mr. Flanders reported that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2017, meeting of the Committee. The motion was properly seconded and passed unanimously.

Enterprise Zone
Regulations

Mr. Bill Shelton, Director of DHCD informed the committee that at a prior meeting staff shared with the Board an update from this year's legislative session which included a change to the Enterprise Zone Program. The legislative change will need to be reflected in the program's regulations. Staff is responsible for the administration of the program but the Board is responsible for adopting the regulations.

Mr. Shelton introduced Jordan Snelling, Program Administrator for the Enterprise Zone Program, who reviewed the changes in the legislation that came about from an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) opinion. As this change to the regulations is required by statute, it is exempt from the Administrative Process Act. Mr. Shelton added that this change would become effective January 1, 2018.

In addition to the statutory change, staff recommended consideration of a broad based review of the regulations, noting possible administrative changes as well as the need to consider recommendations made by the recent Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) study on the program. Mr. J.P. Carr was cautious that a review of the regulations would cause an expansion of the program without an increase in funding. The Committee moved to recommend to the full board to adopt the changes in the regulation due to the statutory change and to begin the process for a broad based review of the regulations.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Shelton informed the Committee that at the May meeting the Board approved the Consolidated Plan: Annual Action Plan submission to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This was done with a caveat that a 10 percent change in allocation of funds would require additional Board review. Mr. Shelton stated that currently, HUD is operating on an approved budget with level funding and he does not foresee the plan coming back before the Board.

New Business

There was no new business to be discussed.

Committee Matters

There were no Committee matters to be discussed.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the committee meeting was adjourned.

**BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MEETING
10:00 A.M., January 22, 2018
Glen Allen, Virginia**

Members Present

Mr. John Patrick “J.P.” Carr
Ms. Susan Dewey
Mr. Sean Farrell
Ms. Helen Hardiman
Ms. Abigail Johnson
Mr. Shekar Narasimhan
Mr. Jeff Sadler
Mr. Steve Semones
Ms. Patricia Shields

Members Absent

Mr. John Ainslie
Mr. James “Robby” Dawson
Mr. Earl Reynolds
Mr. Tommy Shields

Call to Order

Mr. J.P Carr, Vice Chairman of the Board of Housing and Community Development, called the meeting of the Board to order in the absence of the Chairman.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Mr. Kyle Flanders of the Department of Housing and Community Development’s (DHCD) Policy Office. Mr. Flanders reported that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

No comments were made by the public; the public comment period was then closed.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2017, meeting of the Board; the motion passed.

Resolutions

Mr. Carr, introduced Mr. Erik Johnston as the new Director for DHCD. Mr. Johnston introduced himself to the Board and noted that he is looking forward to continuing to serve the Board in his new role. Mr. Carr then presented a resolution in honor of the former Director, Mr. Bill Shelton, for approval by the Board. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the resolution; the motion was unanimously approved. Ms. Helen Hardiman also asked could there be a commending resolution introduced in the General Assembly on Mr. Shelton’s behalf. Mr. Johnston stated that staff would inquire about that process.

Housing and Community
Development Items

Staff from DHCD presented a timeline for updating the Private Activity Bond (PAB) and the Industrial Revitalization Fund

(IRF) Guidelines. An update to these guidelines should be presented to the Board at the July meeting. There was discussion amongst the Board on how to ensure programs are not in silos. Mr. Johnston explained that the agency strives to combine federal and state funding streams into unified applications and works to connect initiatives to make sure projects work together at the community and regional level. Staff then presented an update on the Consolidated Plan, which is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as it relates to certain programs which the agency oversees. DHCD will be entering year one of the five year plan. Staff plans to present an executive summary of the plan at the March meeting and the full plan at the May meeting for adoption by the Board.

Housing Policy Advisory Council

Mr. Johnston introduced staff from the Virginia Coalition of Housing and Economic Development Researchers who worked to carry out, on behalf of the Housing Policy Advisory Council, a study to explore linkages in housing and economics. The report was released and formally presented at the Virginia Governor's Housing Conference in Norfolk in November of 2017. The staff presented an overview of the study and went over the key findings which included: a shortage of affordable housing across the Commonwealth, a need for substantial new housing, the challenges the homebuilding industry faces, and that there is a linkage between transportation costs and housing that is affordable.

Legislative Update

Mr. Johnston provided an update to the Board in regards to the current legislative session. He provided an overview of bills that could impact the Board and the agency if they were to be passed. Mr. Johnston stated that the Administration had announced support of legislation moving the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) from the Board of Housing and Community Development to the Fire Services Board. Several Board members expressed concern over this bill and how it would affect the code cycle update. Board members discussed options to express their concerns and decided to express their concerns individually and through their associations.

COIA Disclosures

Mr. Flanders stated as a reminder that Board members were required to submit disclosure forms under the Conflict of Interest

Act (COIA), which are due by February 1, 2018.

VHDA Report	Ms. Susan Dewey indicated that the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) utilizes private activity bonds for multifamily housing and conversion to mortgage credit certificates for first time homebuyers. In addition to their regular allocation, VHDA is also able to utilize year-end carryforward from other pools (Industrial Development and the Governor's Pool) for these purposes. Ms. Dewey also noted that VHDA was beginning the process of updating the Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) as part of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program which they will be holding a series of forums for comment through 2018 for changes to take effect in 2019.
VFSB Report	Mr. Farrell stated that the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) had not met since the last meeting of this Board and the next meeting was scheduled for February 23, 2018, in Virginia Beach.
Report of the Director	Mr. Johnston stated that the regulations approved at the October meeting of the Board were submitted and are currently before the Administration but currently there is no update as to their approval. He added that Ms. Esther Lee had been appointed and will be serving as the Secretary of Commerce and Trade over the agency. Mr. Johnston then shared several grant announcements made by both the former and current Governors since the last meeting of the Board.
Unfinished Business	There was no unfinished business to be discussed.
New Business	There was no new business to be discussed.
Board Matters	On a personal note, Mr. Carr mentioned the passing of Board member Rich Napier.
Future Meetings	Mr. Carr directed board members to review the dates of the upcoming meetings with the next meeting of the Board to be held on March 19, 2018.
Adjournment	Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.



Ralph S. Northam
Governor

Esther Lee
Secretary of
Commerce and Trade

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Erik C. Johnston
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

March 22, 2018

Memorandum

To: Board of Housing and Community Development Members

From: Erik C. Johnston, Director

RE: Enterprise Zone Periodic Review

At its October 16, 2017 meeting, the Board of Housing and Community Development approved staff to proceed with a Periodic Review of the Enterprise Zone Grant Program Regulations (13 VAC 5-112). The purpose of this review was to determine, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Code of Virginia and Executive Order 17 (2014), whether this regulation should be repealed, amended, or retained in its current form.

As a part of the Periodic Review process an open comment period was held from January 8 – February 7, 2018. Three (3) responses were received through the Virginia Town Hall website and one (1) response was sent directly to the Enterprise Zone email address. Recommendations included:

- Increasing the opportunities for smaller towns and rural localities
- Increasing the opportunities for smaller businesses
- Making the Zone amendment process more flexible
- Increasing programmatic funding to allow for fuller funding of the Real Property Investment Grants

Staff noted that the changes recommended by the review are likely not feasible to achieve through the regulatory process. To conclude the Periodic Review Process the Board must act to amend, retain, or repeal the regulation. Based on the recommendations received, it is staff's recommendation that the Enterprise Zone Grant Program Regulations be retained with no amendments.

Enclosure

Partners for Better Communities



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Comments Received through the Virginia Town Hall

Commenter: Elizabeth Schulhof, Haris Hardy & Johnstone, P.C.

EZ program

Having worked with the EZ program by preparing application packages for over 15 years, I agree with prior comments concerning the changing economic landscape. Directing the program toward smaller towns and rural localities and most importantly toward smaller businesses would be beneficial. Thank you.

Commenter: Ashley Wolfe, Pittsylvania County Economic Development

Enterprise Zone Regulation

When Pittsylvania County Staff began their comprehensive enterprise zone amendment process, we realized that much of our existing designated zones were being highly under-utilized with new homes, schools, that had been built in the zone and/or the lack of needed industrial infrastructure. To make better use of the zones, Staff reviewed the possibility of shifting the under-utilized zone acreage to existing industrial parks and strategic economic development properties that were not in the zone. After Staff tabulated the desired acreage to be amended (deleted and added), we realized that there was a maximum deletion clause in the Virginia Administrative Code (13VAC5-112-490. Amendment of Approved Applications) that restricted requested deletions to 15% of the zone total acreage.

Delegate Danny Marshall has submitted HB 431 that would ammend the Code of Virginia, supersede the Virginia Administrative Code, and would result in the removal of the maximum deletion clause and instead provide that the cumulative net acreage of the zone, after requested deletion and addition amendments, cannot exceed the maximum and minimum zone acreages as given in subsection C of § 59.1-542.

By this proposed bill removing the maximum deletion requirement, it gives locales more flexibility in better utilizing their zones and removes the issue of comprehensive enterprise zone amendments taking multiple years due to locales having to piecemeal the requests to meet the 15% maximum deletion cap. It will also remove the burden from DHCD staff, of trying to calculate and keep track of the percentage of total zone deletion during an amendment process. This flexibility will enable host localities to experience greater impacts from the zones and will put Virginia in a better position to “win” more projects by having appropriate land zoned for these real property investment and job creation-based incentives.

The proposed bill also clarifies the land area requirements associated with designated enterprise zones, by including language from the appropriate Virginia Administrative Code section (13VAC5-112-440. Zone Eligibility Requirements), which clearly states the minimum and

maximum acreage for designated zones within cities, towns, and unincorporated areas of Counties (also known as rural Virginia).

Pittsylvania County, and its Board of Supervisors, thank Delegate Marshall for sponsoring this bill. We sincerely believe that its passage will result in making an already effective economic development tool and program even better, which both directly and indirectly results in improving the public health, safety, and welfare.

Commenter: Sherry Spring, County of Gloucester, Virginia

Enterprise Zone

Having worked in economic development for the past 22 years and working in an area with an Enterprise Zone, I certainly understand the importance of having the zone in new recruitment efforts and retention efforts. There is a tremendous amount of work on the local level that goes into the potential formation of an Enterprise Zone prior to state approval. First, I think the EZ should be amended to work better with today's economic development needs. I think the state EZ is now 22 years old and things have changed. I think the guidelines should reflect small businesses and not just the larger ones with big capital investment and job creation. I don't necessarily agree that it should just be for low income/high unemployment areas. I would hope that the program can be revisited to include something for everyone and make the rural areas more competitive with the suburban and urban areas in the state. Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts on the EZ.

Comments Received by Email

Subject: Comments on Enterprise Zone Program

Kyle,

Below is a letter I sent to delegates of the General Assembly extolling the virtues of the Enterprise Zone Program. The letter comments on a recently commissioned study of Enterprise Zone Programs done by Virginia Commonwealth University. The content of the letter would be relevant because it highlights the positive impact Enterprise Grant programs have on our business community throughout the State of Virginia.

I am a CPA who has seen firsthand the benefit these programs produce. I encourage the General Assembly to continue the Enterprise Zone Grant program and strengthen its effect by fully

funding the grant awards. This will ensure these programs will have the maximum benefit to our business community in Virginia

Dear Delegate

*The recently concluded study conducted by the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA) at Virginia Commonwealth University stated several key points. Foremost was the recognition of the overall success of the Enterprise Zone program. "Between 2005 and 2015 a total of \$118 million was disbursed as real property grants, which spurred private real property investments of at least \$1.25 billion." **That is almost a whopping 11 to 1 return on every dollar spent by the Commonwealth!***

*The study also recognized that, "Most of the success of the Enterprise Zone program comes from (RPIG) Real Property Investment Grant. **RPIG has been found to significantly improve local property values. The ripple effect of the impact can be seen up to a quarter mile outside the zone boundaries.**"*

Unfortunately the emphasis of fully funding the competing Jobs Creation Grant has depleted dollars from the RPIG grant pool, producing a prorated award. This reduction in grant awards has been as much as 30%. The study recognizes this as a major weakness to the effectiveness of the RPIG program.

*The first recommendation of the study asks that the program be fully funded. Given the most recent news of a budget surplus, **I ask you to consider increasing the funding pool to at least alleviate some of the proration.** Also, would you please consider removing the 100% funding requirement for the Jobs Creation Grant? This program has seen its funding increased in the past 10 years to over \$3 million. This increase is negatively impacting the RPIG program. And, the study notes..."the growth in businesses did not directly translate into corresponding job growth." This is in spite of the 100% funding mandate for jobs.*

Recognizing the limited budget dollars the Commonwealth has to spend, the most effective program in the area of Enterprise Zones is the Real Property Investment Grant (RPIG). I ask you to improve this programs' effectiveness by allocating additional dollars to the RPIG. It will be money, not spent, but invested wisely for the future of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Marusco MBA/CPA



Ralph S. Northam
Governor

Esther Lee
Secretary of
Commerce and Trade

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Erik C. Johnston
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

March 22, 2018

Memorandum

To: Board of Housing and Community Development Members

From: Erik C. Johnston, Director

RE: Consolidated Plan

The Board of Housing and Community Development is responsible for the review/approval of the 2018 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the 2018 – 2019 Annual Action Plan. These are HUD requirements that set priorities and goals for the use of HUD program funds that include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solution Grant (ESG), HOME Investment Partnership, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and the National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF).

A draft of the [2018 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and first Annual Action Plan](#) is available for review and input online. For more information about the consolidated planning process, please see [DHCD Online](#).

A presentation (PowerPoint presentation attached) on the draft plan will be made at the Board's April 2, 2018 meeting. At this time, board members will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide input. Final review/approval of these documents will be an action item on the May 21, 2018 Board Meeting agenda. Please note, while there is an approved 2018 federal budget with level funding for HUD programs, HUD has yet to announce grantee allocation amounts. These draft documents use estimates for program allocations based on 2017 allocations. DHCD staff will update these amounts once 2018 allocations are announced (anticipated in April 2018).

The draft plan is lengthy so the bulleted list below outlines the proposed changes for the 2018 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, 2018 – 2019 Annual Action Plan, and associated programs:

- Housing Policy Advisory Council (HPAC) Study: The 2018 Consolidated Plan includes the HPAC study to support priorities and goals to inform HUD and to encourage program applicants to address key findings.

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- Moving from Foster Care to Adulthood Pilot: DHCD proposes the use of a set aside of \$600,000 from the 2018 – 2019 HOME allocations to fund a pilot that provides rental assistance to youth aging out of foster care in the greater Richmond and Charlottesville areas. The goal is to demonstrate that transitional supports including rental assistance will improve overall housing stability. This pilot is an interagency effort in collaboration with the Department of Social Services and the Virginia Housing Development Authority.
- Affordable and Special Needs Housing Application Deadline: DHCD proposes reducing the number of application rounds from two per year (Fall and Spring) to once a year (Spring). DHCD has made incremental changes to the application submission deadlines over time, gathered feedback from partners and applicants, and consulted with Virginia Housing Development Authority. Based on this input, DHCD recommends one application deadline for the upcoming 2018 – 2019 program year. DHCD will solicit feedback from partners at year-end to evaluate the overall impact of this change before determining subsequent year application deadlines.
- Broadband requirement for Multi-Family Development: Broadband infrastructure will be required with multi-family (4 or more units) projects that have HUD funding. The 2018 -2019 program guidelines of CDBG programs and HOME funding programs, Affordable and Special Needs Housing, will be updated to reflect this regulatory requirement.
- Virginia Vibrant Community Initiative (VCI) Incorporates Longer Timeline: The 2017 – 2018 program year is the third year of the VCI pilot. Based on the first three years, DHCD recommends extending the VCI timeline to allow more time for projects that are on the scale of the VCI program. Based on this recommendation no new funds would be set aside from the 2018 – 2019 program allocations.

Enclosure



Consolidated Plan

Board of Housing and Community Development Meeting

April 2, 2018



What is the Consolidated Plan?

- **Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirement**
 - **Consolidated Plan completed every 5 years with the following components**
 - **Action Plan and Consolidated Annual Plan Evaluation Report (CAPER) completed annually**
 - **Needs Assessment**
 - **Housing**
 - **Homelessness**
 - **Non-Homeless Special Needs Housing**
 - **Non-Housing Community Development**
 - **Strategic Plan**
 - **Market Analysis**
 - **Analysis of the Impediments to Fair Housing**
 - **To inform HUD and applicants of DHCD priorities**



Resources

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**
- **HOME Investment Partnership (HOME)**
- **Emergency Solution Grants (ESG)**
- **Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)**
- **National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF)**





Input and Consultation

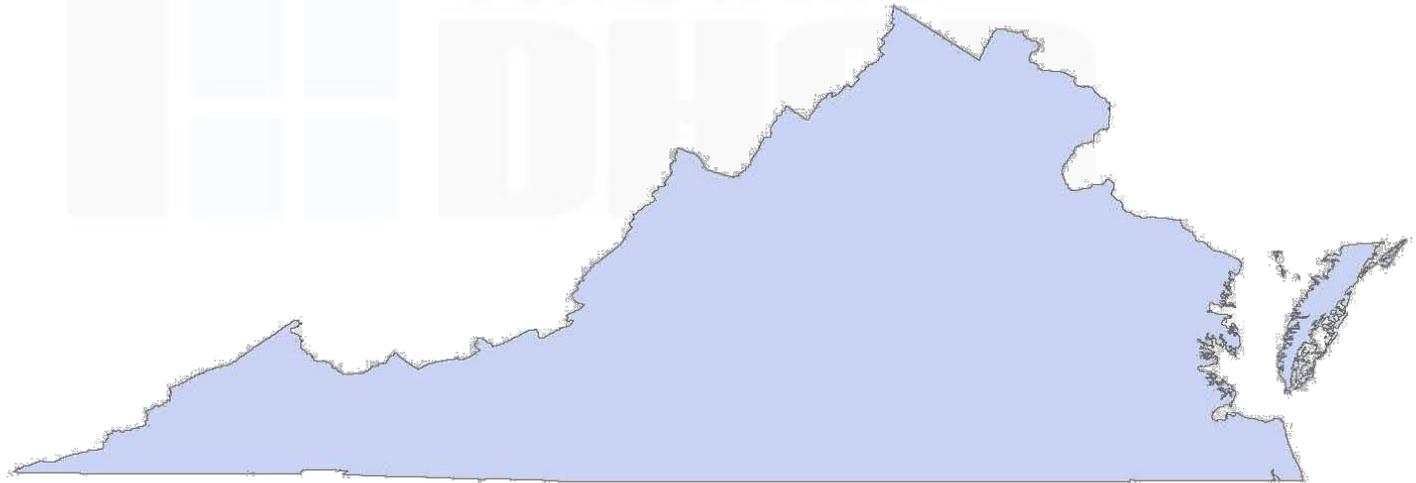
- Consolidated Plan Input Sessions (December 2017)
- Community Development Input Sessions (October 2017)
- Homeless System Input Sessions (October 2017)
 - CoC and other ESG grantees included
- VHDA/DHCD Stakeholder Survey
- Consultation with other state agencies and state plans
- Included the Housing Policy Advisory Council study to support the Consolidated Plan priorities





Input and Consultation

- **Written comments**
 - USPS
 - Online portal (NEW)
- **Public Notice and Hearing (March 30, 2018)**
- **DHCD board review/approval**
 - Any specific input should be emailed to Kyle Flanders at kyle.flanders@dhcd.virginia.gov



VIRGINIA'S CONSOLIDATED PLAN



Virginia's Consolidated Plan is a five-year plan that examines the housing and community development needs of the Commonwealth. It enables Virginia to administer funds from federal housing and community development programs through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) that help improve the quality of life of low to moderate income Virginians.

The Consolidated Plan, which is updated annually and submitted to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), covers programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program.

Information about the consolidated plans (including annual action plans, citizen participation, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report [CAPER] and more) may be found below.

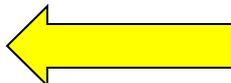
DHCD values input in developing its Consolidated Planning Process. DHCD's Citizen Participation Plan is available here.

- [Citizen Participation Plan](#)



DHCD also encourages you to attend one of four input sessions scheduled across the Commonwealth in early December 2018. However, if you are unable to attend an input session and would still like to provide input, click below.

 [Submit Feedback](#)



SEARCH DHCD



DHCD QUICK MENU

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[BUSINESS APPRECIATION MONTH](#)

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[CONSOLIDATED PLANNING PROCESS](#)

 [CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)



Timeline

- **Initial draft (Five Year Con Plan and 2018 – 2019 Action Plan) Posted**
- **Public Comment Period - October 1, 2017 – April 14, 2018**
- **Public Hearing March 30, 2018 (announced in public legal notice)**
- **Board Approval May 2018**
- **HUD Submission May 2018**





Funding Levels

- 2018 – 2019 HUD (Federal) funding will be “level funding”
- DHCD actual HUD allocation amounts TBD – waiting on HUD announcement of allocation
- Draft proposed allocation are based on 2017 – 2018 funding amounts
- DHCD will update the proposed Con Plan and Annual Action with actual numbers when announced
- Adjustments to activities funding levels will be made proportionate to the difference



Summary of Changes

- Included the Housing Policy Advisory Council study to support the Consolidated Plan priorities
- Moving from Foster Care to Adulthood Pilot – HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Pilot
- Affordable and Special Needs Housing Program – Moving from two funding rounds/year to one round
- All multi-family housing development activities must include broadband infrastructure (HUD requirement)
- VCI Pilot no new funding in 2018 – 2019
Evaluating program and revising to incorporate a longer timeline



Contact Information

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Department of Housing and Community Development

Housing Division, Deputy Director

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Pamela.kestner@dhcd.virginia.gov

**BOARD of HOUSING and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Housing and Community Development held in Glen Allen, Virginia on Monday, April 2, 2018, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, James “Robby” Dawson was appointed by the 2013 Virginia Fire Services Board to serve on the Board of Housing and Community Development; and

WHEREAS, He served the Board with distinction from 2013 until 2018, serving on the Statewide Fire Prevention Code Development Committee and the Codes and Standards Committee; and

WHEREAS, His commitment to the Commonwealth coupled with his knowledge and experience made him an asset to this Board; and

WHEREAS, His faithful and diligent participation, along with his consideration of the views of others rendered him an invaluable participant in the Board’s deliberations; and

WHEREAS, His intelligence and dedication earned him the respect of the members of this Board, its staff and all others associated with its activities; and

WHEREAS, His good humor, his wit and his graciousness added immeasurably to the pleasure and satisfaction derived from service on this Board; and

WHEREAS, The termination of his service with the Board deprives the Commonwealth of a distinguished and faithful public servant and this body of a valued member and good friend;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Housing and Community Development does hereby express its gratitude to **James “Robby” Dawson,** for his many contributions to this body and acknowledges with regret the loss of his company and good counsel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Minutes of this meeting and that a framed copy thereof be presented to **James “Robby” Dawson,** as a permanent testament of our affection, esteem, and high regard.

Chairman

BHCD Legislative Update – April 2018

Code Specific Bills

HB 609 (Carr)/SB 743 (DeSteph) Housing; installation and maintenance of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Creates a statewide standard for the installation and maintenance of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in rental property. The bill requires a landlord to install a smoke alarm without retrofitting the installation site and certify annually that smoke alarms have been installed and maintained in good working order in a residential dwelling unit pursuant to the SFPC and the USBC. The bill notes that a landlord, his agent/employee, or a third party may conduct the inspection and provide verification. The bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. **Signed by the Governor. This bill will require a regulatory update.**

HB 683 (Pogge)/SB 921(Ebbin) Uniform Statewide Building Code; security of certain records. Clarifies that while information contained in engineering and construction drawings and plans for any single-family residential dwelling submitted for the purpose of complying with the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ 36-97 et seq.) or the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (§ 27-94 et seq.) shall not be subject to disclosure to the public under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.), the plans may be accessed by relevant staff. **Signed by the Governor. This bill is intended to assist staff who may need to review such plans for their day to day duties; otherwise the “confidential” status may have prevented this from occurring.**

HB 859 (Peace) Uniform Statewide Building Code; administration and enforcement; agreements for assistance between localities. Provides that the local governing body of a county or municipality may enter into an agreement with the governing body of another county or municipality for the provision to such county or municipality's local building department of technical assistance with administration and enforcement of the Building Code. **Signed by the Governor.**

Agency/Housing and Community Development Specific Bills

HB 431 (Marshall) Enterprise Zone Grant Program; designation of enterprise zone; amendments to the size of an enterprise zone. Codifies the minimum size and maximum size of enterprise zones under the Enterprise Zone Grant Program. The bill also provides that amendments to an enterprise zone that include the elimination and replacement of an area or areas from the zone shall not exceed the maximum size provisions. **This bill will require a regulatory update.**

HB 1583 Commonwealth Broadband Chief Advisor. Establishes the position of Commonwealth Broadband Chief Advisor (Chief Advisor) within the Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to serve as Virginia's single point of contact and integration for broadband issues, efforts, and initiatives and to increase the availability and affordability of broadband throughout all regions of the Commonwealth. **Not housed within DHCD but DHCD staff and programs would interact with this position.**

Virginia Grocery Investment Program and Fund. Creates the Virginia Grocery Investment Program and Fund to provide funding for the construction, rehabilitation, equipment upgrades, or expansion of grocery stores, small food retailers, and innovative food retail projects in underserved communities. DHCD, in coordination with stakeholders, would be responsible for creating program guidelines, but a

statewide Community Development Financial Institution would implement the program. **Bills did not pass but program is still active in the budget.**

Budget

Senate

Virginia Grocery Investment Fund – Currently \$2.5 million over the biennium (\$5 million reduction from introduced budget of \$7.5 million).

Enterprise Zone – Currently \$1.37 million additional over the biennium (\$25.6 million in introduced budget)

Virginia Telecommunication initiative - \$4 million additional over the biennium (\$4 million in introduced budget).

House

GO Virginia - \$15 million additional over the biennium (\$48.9 million in in introduced budget)