



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

GO Virginia Region 2

GO Virginia Region 2 Executive Committee

January 12, 2024, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Roanoke Higher Education Center, Room 701A, 108 N Jefferson Street,
Roanoke, Virginia, 24016.

- Introductions (1:00-1:05)
- Financial Report (1:05-1:10)
- Region 2 Data and Project Pipeline (1:10-1:15)
- Project proposals (1:15-2:00)
 - "Career Pathway Development Initiatives for the Lynchburg Region" - Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance
 - "Data Analyst Training And Software Engineers Experience from Locality Data (DATA SEED)" - Virginia Tech Department of Business Information Technology
- Special Updates (2:00-2:45)
 - JLARC report and recommendations
 - TPI Update
 - Celebrate Success Events: Debrief and Marketing Update
- Council Business (2:45-3:00)
 - Council Membership
 - Quarterly project reporting
 - Minutes
- Packet Information Item
 - JLARC Report



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The meeting will adjourn at 3:00p.m.

Public comment is welcome in writing. Please submit to Region 2 staff, John Provo, jprovo@vt.edu or Rachel Jones, rachelcj@vt.edu by 1/11 at 1:00p.m.

Region 2 Allocations

Updated 1/9/2024

FY 23 Per Capita Projects	
FY 23 Allocation	\$1,527,228.00
Transfer from FY18	\$28,658.12
Transfer from FY21 Per Capita	\$506,000.00
Transfer from FY 21/22 Capacity Building	\$106,575.67
Project Returns	\$125,192.09
Transfer from FY22 Per Capita	\$90,203.00
Industry 4.0 for the ACE Workforce	-\$500,000.00
Expanding Welding Training Capacity & Jobs in the Roanoke	-\$166,667.00
Lynchburg Beacon of Hope Career Acceleration Program	-\$540,000.00
Falling Branch Corporate Park Phase II Regional Site Development	-\$324,000.00
Strengthening Entrepreneur Impact- RAMP	-\$577,800.00
NRV Materials and Machinery Cluster Scale-up	-\$98,859.00
FY23 Remaining Balance	\$176,530.88

FY24 Per Capita Projects	
FY24 Allocation	\$1,520,102.00
ACA Classical & CTE Academy Welding	-\$565,000.00
FY24 Remaining Balance	\$955,102.00
Total Remaining Balance FY23/FY24	\$1,131,632.88

FY 23/24 Capacity Building (Support)

FY23 Allocation	\$250,000.00
FY24 Allocation	\$250,000.00
FY23 Drawdown	-\$166,058.00
FY24 Drawdown	-\$41,492.00
Current Balance	\$292,450.00

Applications Under Consideration (Per Capita)

DATA SEED	-\$99,998.48	<i>Planning</i>
Career Pathway Development Initiatives for the Lynchburg Region	-\$37,500.00	<i>Planning</i>
Developing IT & Cybersecurity Certification Pipeline (ITCCP)	-\$202,872.39	
Total:	-\$340,370.87	
Balance if All Approved:	\$791,262.01	

FY24 Planning Cap	\$250,000.00
<i>Planning applications</i>	\$236,357.48
<i>Percentage of planning cap</i>	95%

Project Status Summary									
Project Type & FY	GOVA Funding Approved	GOVA Drawn Down to date	GOVA Funds Remaining	Match Funding	Match Drawn Down	Match Funds Remaining	Admin Fee	Admin Fee Draw Down	Admin Fee Remaining
Per Capita FY18 Projects:	\$1,115,382.03	\$1,086,718.14	\$0.00	\$3,252,380.71	\$2,901,110.76	\$353,216.13			
Per Capita FY19 Projects:	\$1,197,486.00	\$1,058,036.14	\$0.00	\$1,732,722.00	\$1,597,744.44	\$202,637.60			
Per Capita FY20 Projects:	\$1,782,567.00	\$1,622,794.44	\$159,772.56	\$1,272,290.00	\$1,166,737.06	\$141,145.26	\$27,140.00	\$27,140.00	\$0.00
ERR FY20 Projects:	\$1,110,700.00	\$1,109,141.94	\$1,558.06	\$566,610.00	\$570,743.57	\$0.00	\$23,598.00	\$23,598.00	\$0.00
Per Capita FY21 Projects:	\$844,157.00	\$510,302.40	\$333,854.60	\$695,042.00	\$551,910.11	\$143,131.89	\$25,367.00	\$8,822.35	\$16,544.65
Per Capita FY22 Projects:	\$1,442,743.00	\$590,529.14	\$852,213.86	\$999,800.00	\$388,279.09	\$611,522.00	\$106,786.00	\$41,963.30	\$64,822.70
Per Capita FY23 Projects:	\$2,207,326.00	\$107,620.79	\$2,099,705.21	\$5,679,594.77	\$104,463.05	\$5,575,131.72	\$156,182.00	\$7,971.38	\$148,210.62
Per Capita FY24 Projects:	\$565,000.00	\$0.00	\$565,000.00	\$538,335.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00
TOTAL:	\$10,265,361.03	\$6,085,142.99	\$4,012,104.29	\$14,736,775.33	\$7,280,988.08	\$7,026,784.60	\$182,891.00	\$101,523.65	\$81,367.35

Project Name	Project Type & FY	Start Date	End Date	GOVA Funding Approved	GOVA Drawn Down to date	GOVA Funds Remaining	Match Funding	Match Reported to Date	Match Funds Remaining	Notes
Project Eagle+	Per Capita (FY21)	12/15/2021	12/14/2023	\$599,437.00	\$315,443.45	\$283,993.55	\$503,687.00	\$385,617.60	\$118,069.40	
Regional Talent Strategy Implementation	Per Capita (FY22)	6/1/2022	5/31/2024	\$315,911.00	\$144,864.00	\$171,047.00	\$189,354.00	\$82,284.01	\$107,069.99	
Workforce & Entrepreneurship in a Reg. Makerspace (Vector Space)	Per Capita (FY22)	6/14/2022	6/30/2024	\$324,000.00	\$195,866.24	\$128,133.76	\$162,100.00	\$118,428.58	\$43,671.42	
CS/ Root	Per Capital (FY22)	10/1/2022	9/30/2024	\$175,000.00	\$41,736.63	\$133,263.37	\$175,000.00	\$46,183.16	\$128,816.84	
Airport Commerce Park Regional Development	Per Capita (FY22)	5/1/2023	5/1/2024	\$190,000.00	\$98,118.00	\$91,882.00	\$95,000.00	\$49,100.00	\$45,900.00	
Center for Entrepreneurship	Per Capita (FY22)	3/14/2023	3/14/2025	\$240,192.00	\$12,204.28	\$227,987.72	\$120,096.00	\$6,632.25	\$113,463.75	
Bedford Metal Workforce Training Center	Per Capita (FY22)	8/1/2023	8/1/2024	\$99,900.00	\$0.00	\$99,900.00	\$201,000.00	\$0.00	\$201,000.00	
Expanding Welding BTEC	Per Capita (FY23)	12/13/2022	12/12/2024	\$166,667.00	\$32,879.52	\$133,787.48	\$99,666.77	\$17,880.11	\$81,786.66	
Industry 4.0 for the ACE Workforce	Per Capita (FY23)	3/1/2023	2/28/2025	\$500,000.00	\$48,245.34	\$451,754.66	\$251,300.00	\$57,628.04	\$193,671.96	
Lynchburg Beacon of Hope Career Acceleration Program	Per Capita (FY23)	8/1/2023	8/1/2025	\$540,000.00	\$26,495.93	\$513,504.07	\$270,000.00	\$28,954.90	\$241,045.10	
Falling Branch Corporate Park Regional Site Development	Per Capita (FY23)	7/1/2023	7/1/2025	\$324,000.00	\$0.00	\$324,000.00	\$4,585,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,585,000.00	
Strengthening Entrepreneurs' Impact	Per Capita (FY23)	12/1/2023	12/1/2025	\$577,800.00	\$0.00	\$577,800.00	\$288,900.00	\$0.00	\$288,900.00	
NRV Materials and Machinery Cluster Scale-up	Per Capita (FY23)			\$98,859.00	\$0.00	\$98,859.00	\$102,528.00	\$0.00	\$102,528.00	Contracting in process
ACA Classical & CTE Academy Welding	Per Capita (FY24)			\$565,000.00	\$0.00	\$565,000.00	\$538,335.85	\$0.00	\$538,335.85	Contracting in process



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Region 2 Data and Project Pipeline

Region 2 Talent Outcomes



Report Status	Project Name	# Businesses Served	# Credentials Awarded	# Existing Jobs Retained	# Jobs Created/ Filled	# New Internships Created	# New Programs/ Credentials Implemented	# Students Enrolled in Dual Enrollment	# Students Trained	# Upskilled Employees
Total		336	1,088	14	287.5	497	7	734	2,872	263
Closed	AMPL	12	352	14	70	5	7	-	-	46
	Developing a Destination for Talent	52	-	-	150	319	-	-	-	-
	Drone Zone	4	-	-	2.5	-	-	17	7	-
	Ignite	6	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-
	Industry 4.0	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Talent Collaborative	47	137	-	-	-	-	-	-	128
Active	Elite	17	-	-	17	62	-	-	-	-
	CTC	4	129	-	-	10	-	130	168	-
	CVCC CTE Academy	123	466	-	-	-	-	587	2,655	-
	Lynchburg Career Accelerator	30	4	-	6	89	-	-	-	-
	Regional Talent Strategy	19	-	-	42	-	-	-	42	89

20 total talent projects have been funded.

Talent Projects:

- Additive Manufacturing Partnership Lab (AMPL), *Liberty University*
- Bedford Metal Workforce Retention Center, *Town of Bedford Economic Development Authority*
- Blockchain Ecosystem Catalyst, *VT Computer Science*
- Building a Regional Health Sciences Talent Pipeline, *Carilion Clinic*
- Classrooms to Careers, *Montgomery County Public Schools*
- CVCC CTE Academy, *Central Virginia Community College*
- Developing a Destination for Talent, *Virginia Tech*
- Enhancing the Region through New Technology for Unmanned Systems, *Mountain Gateway Community College*
- Expanding Welding Training Capacity & Jobs in the Roanoke Valley, *Botetourt County Economic Development*
- Experiential Learning in Tech Employment (ELITE) Internship Program, *Verge Alliance*

- Future Centers Expansion, *Lynchburg Beacon of Hope*
- Future Workforce for Industry 4.0, *VT College of Engineering*
- GO Virginia Region 2 Talent Collaborative, *Virginia Career Works - Central Region*
- Ignite, *United Way of Southwest Virginia*
- Industry 4.0 for Automated-Connected-Electrified (ACE) Workforce, *VT College of Engineering*
- Lynchburg Career Acceleration Program, *Lynchburg Beacon of Hope*
- Regional Talent Strategy Implementation, *Greater Roanoke Workforce Development Board*
- Stopping the Brain Drain, *Roanoke Regional Partnership*

Region 2 Entrepreneurship Outcomes



Report Status	Project Name	# Businesses Served and Entrepreneurs Engaged	# Jobs Created/ Filled	# Mentors Engaged	# New Businesses Created	# New Products Completed/ Released to Production	Revenues Increased from Export-Sales	Total Capital Raised
Total		815	85.5	134	34	30	\$4.65M	\$2.76M
Closed	Pivot & Ramp Up	10	-	14	-	-	-	-
	RAMP	76	-	62	2	25	\$4.65M	-
	SBDC	100	24	-	18	-	-	\$2.76M
	TAF 2.0	20	-	13	-	-	-	-
	TAF Birth Rate	22	54.5	30	7	5	-	-
Active	Center of Entrepreneurship	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CS/root	525	-	15	3	-	-	-
	Vector Space	62	7	-	4	-	-	-

12 total entrepreneurship projects have been funded.

Entrepreneurship Projects:

- Capital Ecosystem Development , *Valleys Innovation Council*
- Center of Entrepreneurship, *Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance*
- CS/root, *VT Computer Science*
- Increasing the Birth Rates of New High Growth Companies for Region 2 (TAF Birth Rate), *The Advancement Foundation*
- Increasing the Birth Rates of New High Growth Companies Phase II (TAF 2.0), *The Advancement Foundation*
- Pivot & RAMP Up, *Verge Alliance/Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council*
- Regional Accelerator and Mentoring Program (RAMP), *Verge Alliance/Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council*
- Regional Career & Technical Education Study, *Western Virginia Workforce Development Board*
- Regional Entrepreneurship Initiative (ECB VIC-REI), *Valleys Innovation Council/Verge Alliance*

- Roanoke Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Roanoke Regional SBDC
- Strengthening Entrepreneurs' Impact, *Verge Alliance*
- Workforce and Entrepreneurship Initiatives in a Regional Makerspace, *Vector Space*

Region 2 Site Development Outcomes



Report Status	Project Name	# Acres Advanced to Higher Tier per Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP)	# Acres Impacted/ Developed	# Businesses Attracted	# Linear Feet of Water Infrastructure	# Linear Feet of Sewer Infrastructure
Total		-	110	1	375	1150
Closed	Wood Haven	-	110	1	375	1150

10 total site development projects have been funded.

Site Development Projects:

- Airport Commerce Park, *City of Lynchburg, Campbell County*
- Amherst LYH Regional Site Readiness, *Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance*
- Center for Energy Research and Education (CERE) Industry Labs, *Liberty University*
- Central Virginia Training Center Redevelopment, *Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance*
- Falling Branch Corporate Park Regional Site Development, *Montgomery County*
- Flexible Laboratory Space Assessment, *VT Corporate Research Center*

- Lynchburg Due Diligence Study, *Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance*
- Lynchburg Site Readiness, *Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance*
- Project Eagle+ (Flexible Lab Space Implementation), *VT Corporate Research Center*
- Wood Haven Infrastructure Enhancement, *Roanoke Regional Partnership*

Data collected from all quarterly and closeout reports through Oct 2023.

Project Pipeline:

Proposal Title/ Focus	Applicant Organization	Grant Type	G&D Strategy	Industry Cluster
Randolph College STEM Leaders	Randolph College	Implementation	Talent	Materials & Machinery Manufacturing
Clean Tech for Advanced Manufacturing	Verge	Implementation	Cluster Scale Up	Transportation Manufacturing & Autonomy, IT & Emerging Tech
BioTalent Development Initiative	Blue Ridge Partnership for Health Science Careers	Implementation	Talent	Lifesciences & Biotechnology
Makerspace in Roanoke	Hacksburg	Implementation	Entrepreneurship	IT & Emerging Tech, Materials & Machinery Manufacturing
Plan for LYH Regional NITCH (Nuclear Industry Technology Commercialization Hub)	LRBA	Planning	Cluster Scale up	Materials & Machinery Manufacturing
Manufacturing Training Gap - Roanoke	Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission	Planning	Cluster Scale-up, Talent	Materials & Machinery Manufacturing, Transportation & Autonomy Manufacturing
Goodwill Adult High School & Credentialing	Goodwill of the Valleys	Implementation/ State Competitive	Talent	Materials & Machinery Manufacturing, Transportation & Autonomy Manufacturing, Lifesciences & Biotechnology

Project Proposals

Career Pathway Development Initiatives for the Lynchburg Region

Type of Project: planning

Applicant: Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance

Localities covered: Town of Amherst, Town of Appomattox, Amherst County, Bedford County, Campbell County, and the City of Lynchburg

Target Industry Cluster(s): Materials & Machinery

Investment Strategy: Talent Development, Cluster Scale-up

Goal: Pilot the Educator Workforce Academy and secure firms to create an online workforce resource hub and nuclear energy workforce strategy.

Products:

- The Educator Workforce Academy (pilot)
- Online Workforce Resource Hub
- Nuclear Technology & Energy Workforce Strategy

Total GOVA
Request:
\$37,500

Total Match:
\$37,500
Local Match:
\$18,750 (50%)

Total
Budget:
\$75,000

Data Analyst Training And Software Engineers Experience from Locality Data (DATA SEED)

Type of Project: planning

Applicant: Virginia Tech Department of Business Information Technology

Localities covered: Counties of Giles and Pulaski

Target Industry Cluster(s): IT & Emerging Tech

Investment Strategy: Talent Development, Cluster Scale-up

Goal: Provide experiential learning opportunities to students in data analytics and software development. Program and technical management provided by Virginia Tech's Department of Business Information Technology in the Pamplin College of Business supported by ITA International. Students will be mentored by Cowden Technologies, Automation Creations Inc., and ITA International.

Products:

- Six students with two semesters of real-world data analytics and software development experience and close connections with local businesses.
- A plan for enhancing and expanding the pilot project.
- A tool for the counties to use for analysis of data (in the first case 911 call data).

Total GOVA
Request:
\$99,998.48

Total Match:
\$100,000
Local Match:
\$40,000 (40%)

Total
Budget:
\$199,998.48

Developing IT & Cybersecurity Certification Pipeline

Type of Project: Per capita implementation

Applicant: Radford University Division of Economic Development & Corporate Education

Localities covered: Montgomery County, Pulaski County, and Radford City.

Target Industry Cluster(s): IT & Emerging Tech (primary),
*Transportation & Autonomy(secondary), Life Sciences & Biotechnology(secondary),
Materials & Machinery (secondary)*

Investment Strategy: Talent Development

Goal: Increase the number of professionals with IT and cybersecurity certifications that will support the growth of critical in-demand higher wage occupations in Region 2's IT & Emerging Tech cluster as well as other priority clusters that utilize similar talent.

Products:

- enhance coordination and communication among Radford University, Virginia Tech, New River Community College and regional employers to align certification pipeline with cluster needs
- establish a Pearson VUE testing center at the Hub at Radford

Outcomes:

- 104 Credentials awarded
- 10 Businesses Served

Total GOVA
Request:
\$202,872

Total Match:
\$116,863
Local Match:
\$15,363 (13%)

Total
Budget:
\$319,735.39

Special Updates

JLARC Report on GO Virginia

- ▶ Summary of Results: 16 Recommendations and 2 Policy Considerations
- ▶ Recommendations fall into 3 categories:
 - Creation of a clearer and more accurate outcomes reporting process
 - Make programmatic eligibility changes, including better definitions of traded sector industry activities as well as the consideration of healthcare as a fundable project time
 - Create flexibility for Regions to access the Fund, including flexibilities in the Competitive Fund and lowering match requirements
- ▶ Takeaways:
 - All of the recommendations are clearly actionable
 - Many of the recommendations were already underway prior to the report being written
 - DHCD staff and the state board are developing a plan of action to implement the JLARC recommendations

Region 2 Talent Pathways Initiative Update

► Q4 2023 Milestones

- Kick-off meeting for Implementation Partners held November 27
- Hired TPI Project Coordinator - start date January 10
- Establish industry coalition members for the Life Science & Biotechnology industry cluster, building on the BRHPSC Talent Pathways task force
- Inventory of Region 2 employers is in progress, and will be complete by end of Q1 2024.

Celebrate Success Events

Roanoke



On December 13, GO Virginia Region 2 held a Celebrate Success event at the RAMP Regional Accelerator in Roanoke.

Blacksburg



On December 18, GO Virginia Region 2 held a Celebrate Success event at COgro Labs in Blacksburg.

Lynchburg



On January 4, GO Virginia Region 2 held a Celebrate Success event at Vector Space in Lynchburg.

GO Virginia Region 2 Quarterly Report

Period: July-September 2023

Total Projects Funded	Total Funds Allocated	Jobs Created to Date	Matching Funds Allocated
47 (33 Projects Completed)	\$10,265,361	760	\$14,736,775

Area One: Talent development, attraction, and retention

Talent: Aggregated Metrics (from beginning of project – present)									
Status	Project Title <small>(grey indicates closed project)</small>	Metrics							
		Internships completed	Businesses served	New jobs created	Jobs retained	Students trained	Upskilled employees	Credentials awarded	Dual enrollment
	Project Eagle + - also see entrepreneurship metrics	N/A	6	5	-	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
	Regional Talent Strategy Implementation	N/A	19	52	-	60	92	-	N/A
	Workforce & Entrepreneurship Initiatives in a Regional Makerspace –	N/A	62	8	-	102	-	N/A	N/A

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	also see entrepreneurship metrics								
	Expanding Welding Training Capacity & Jobs in the Roanoke Valley	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Industry 4.0 for the Automated-Connected-Electrified (ACE) Workforce	N/A	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Lynchburg Career Accelerator	90	40	6	-	-	-	6	N/A
	ELITE Internship Program	62	17	17	-	-	-	-	-
	CVCC-CTE Academy	-	123	-	-	2,655	-	466	587
	Classrooms to Careers	10	4	-	-	168	-	129	130
	Blockchain Ecosystem Catalyst	-	85	4	-	365	-	46	-

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	AMPL (also in sites)	-	34	75	-	500	-	-	-
	Developing a Destination for Talent	217	52	150	-	217	-	-	-
	Ignite Internship Expansion (ECB)	12	6	-	-	12	-	-	-
	Drone Zone	7	4	2.5	0	7	0	0	17
	Talent Collaborative	-	45	-	-	-	141	-	-
	CERE	N/A	78	98	-	-	-	-	-
	Current Project Totals	398	575	417.5		4,086	233	645	734




ECB Progress Notes:

- 
Bedford Metal Workforce Retention Center: Completed draft RFP framework for future procurement process. Project did not meet Q4 milestones due to a delay in closing on the Winoa property. Project activity has paused until the town closes on the property. Anticipating a revised closing date. Project received no-cost extension through June 30, 2025. Staff is monitoring.
- 
Region 2 Talent Pathways Initiative: Kick-off meeting with implementation partners held on November 27, 2023. New TPI Program Coordinator will start on January 10, 2024. Industry coalition members established for the Life Sciences & Biotechnology industry cluster, and kick-off meeting for industry coalition members may happen ahead of schedule in Q1 2024. Inventory of Transportation Manufacturing & Autonomy companies for the region is expected to be completed in Q1 2024.

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Implementation Progress Notes:

-  **Project Eagle +:** Lawrence Perry & Associates completed a building assessment that consisted of the existing building information, existing site conditions, existing building envelope, and existing interior conditions. J&J Innovation announced at the QuickFire Challenge event held in Washington, D.C. on October 25, 2023 the following three awardees: QurCan Therapeutics, Bacchus Therapeutics, and Luminary Therapeutics. Year 2 cohort includes Achemol, Tiny Cargo, and Qentoros. Two more companies are under evaluation for inclusion. 2.715M in capital raised (Qentoros received a VIPC grant for \$75K and a NIH STTR Phase 1 for \$600K; The Tiny Cargo Company has raised \$950K in investor funding and received a \$1.09M in grant funding). 5 jobs created/filled with a minimum of 4 incoming in Q1 of 2024. 2 additional companies served with 3 incoming in Q1 of 2024. Marketing brochure has been created. There is a link incorporated into the VTCRC website that provides detailed information on the flexible lab spaces: [Wet & Dry Labs | Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center \(vtrc.com\)](https://vtrc.com). Project has entered closeout phase.
-  **Expanding Welding Training Capacity & Jobs in the Roanoke Valley:** Project did not meet Q4 milestones due to a delay in installation of equipment. Bids received, approved, and remaining equipment scheduled for installation over Spring Break during the last week of March 2024. This includes installation of interior gas work. Installation of electrical infrastructure has hindered progress. However, that barrier has been overcome. High school welding enrollment will be on an annual, not semester, basis, and Fall 2024 enrollment is currently up to 104 students before enrollment of Craig County students. Projection is 120 students registered for welding classes in the 2024-25 school year, which should represent a net increase of 20-30 students. Staff is monitoring.
-  **Industry 4.0 for the Automated- Connected- Electrified (ACE) Workforce:** The Project Technical Advisory convened multiple times this quarter. The online resource portal was updated to include additional information about the Modules, registration links, PTAC members, and other resources. A “question and answer” networking session was held on December 8, 2023 to network with existing partners and strengthen relationships and introduce the team to new partners. During the session, an overview of the project goals was provided, as well as more information on Industry 4.0 and an overview of the modules. The PTAC was also introduced and their role was explained. Members of

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the project team also attended two “GO Virginia Region 2 Celebrate Success” events (on December 13, 2023 and January 4, 2024) to network with others in the region and discuss future partnerships. Industry and academic partners continue to express concerns over the dates of Module 1 being so close to the holidays. Additional suggestion that Module 1 should be offered more than once and located throughout the region to better accommodate small business and encourage representatives from all localities to participate. Therefore Module 1 was rescheduled for the Roanoke Higher Education Center (January 2024), Central Virginia Community College in Lynchburg (February 2024), and the New River Valley (March 2024). The PTAC continues to direct the project activities and schedule. This is an important component of the success of the project, as many industries and academics in the community have partnered. This quarter 19 new partners were welcomed into the project because of the strong relationships with the PTAC. [6 Workforce, 12 Business, 1 Economic Development].

 **Regional Talent Strategy Implementation:** Work on the first-annual Talent Summit continues in partnership with Roanoke College, Roanoke Regional Partnership, Roanoke Blacksburg Technology Council, and other key stakeholders, including all the higher education institutions within GO Virginia Region 2. A final date has been set for this event, March 7, 2024. Work continued in partnership with the Roanoke Regional Partnership on the regional web-based talent portal which is on track to be completed during Q1 of 2024. The layout and design of the website has been finalized and the work continues finalizing content and pages within the website, including the links to other workforce and economic development partners. The GRWDB and RRP look forward to presenting this final product to the GO Virginia Region 2 Council at one of their future dates after March 2024. During Q4, the implementation of a *Tech Camp* took place which targeted out-of-school youth ages 18-24 with a barrier to employment and paid them for participation in the internship/work-based learning program. This camp was in partnership with the Roanoke Blacksburg Technology Council, Strokes of Genius, and the Blacks in Technology Council. 8 youth and young adults participated in a week-long program that had them build their own Raspberry Pi computer, hear from business and industry that provided jobs in technology (but not necessarily within the IT industry), exposed them to the community college (Virginia Western Community College) and introduced training and career pathway programs in Mechatronics, Information Technology, and Business, and helped students with mock interviews, resume development, and workplace readiness. The students were also given access to Metrix Learning, which is an online platform that provides hard skills training in an accessible format. Each participant completed coursework related to the boot camp and was able to gain relevant skills. Several students are now being considered for formal internships and job placement through several participating companies and others are working with Career Coaches on staff to develop their next step on the career pathway.

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Area Two: Collaborative Sites and infrastructure



Collaborative Sites and Infrastructure Implementation Projects: Aggregated Metrics							
Status	Project	Metrics					
		Acres advanced	Increased locality engagement	Prospects	Businesses attracted	Linear feet of sewer/water/gas	Acres developed
	Airport Commerce Park	-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-
	Falling Branch Corporate Park	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-
	Amherst Site Readiness	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	AMPL- see talent metrics	N/A	Yes	Yes	4	N/A	N/A
	CERE – see talent metrics						
	Woodhaven	110	Yes	20	0	1150/375/0	110

GO Virginia Region 2 Quarterly Report

Period: July-September 2023

	Lynchburg Due Diligence	6 sites	Yes				
	Totals	Unknown	Yes	20+	4	Unknown	110+

Implementation Progress Notes:

- 
Airport Commerce Park: Phase I environmental site assessment, cultural resources review, and review of threatened and endangered species are all complete. Preliminary geotechnical exploration and report completed. Waters of the US delineation and determination completed. Boundary and topographic survey completed. Traffic impact analysis and preliminary engineering report in progress with expected completion date of 1/31/2024.
- 
Falling Branch Corporate Park: Montgomery County contracted with H&P to revise the grading plans and stormwater management for FBCP Phase II Site 2. The revised plans were submitted to the Town of Christiansburg on September 21, 2023 and resubmitted on December 18, 2023. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issued new stormwater regulations in June 2023. As a result, the Town of Christiansburg required a complete stormwater pond redesign. This required a 2nd and 3rd resubmittal.

Area Three: Entrepreneurship and Business Development

Entrepreneurship: Aggregated Metrics from Implementation Projects		
§	Project Name	Metrics

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		Jobs created	Existing businesses expanded	New businesses created	Businesses served	Entrepreneurs engaged	Mentors engaged
	Workforce & Entrepreneurship Initiatives in a Regional Makerspace – also see talent metrics	8	N/A	4	62	N/A	N/A
	Project Eagle + - also see talent metrics	5	-	N/A	6	N/A	N/A
	CS/root	-	-	3	-	525	15
	Center for Entrepreneurship	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A
	Strengthening Entrepreneurs' Impact	-	-	-	-	-	-
	VIC-REI	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TAF – Increasing the Birth Rate of High Growth Companies 2	19	-	-	50	22	30
	TAF – Increasing the Birth Rate of High Growth Companies	-	17	-	51	51	29
	RAMP	210	13	2	45	36	93
	Roanoke SBDC	66	-	27	-	-	-
	Pivot and RAMP Up	-	TBD	TBD	24	11	72
	Project Totals	308	30	36	238	634	239

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Implementation Progress Notes:



Center for Entrepreneurship: Project did not meet Q4 milestones due to a delay in the opening of the LRBA facility space. Project team is coordinating plans for capital improvements to the physical space, expected completion in Q1. Held an introductory meeting for Board of Advisors, ICAP, and small businesses. Director has made connections with Launch CLT and 757 Collab as models and mentors. Planned an Ecosystem Mapping Project for Feb 1 which will be facilitated by CO.STARTERS Co. Staff is monitoring.



Strengthening Entrepreneurs' Impact: RAMP team compiled their initial list of mentors and tentative ESOs that we plan to utilize and tap into for this new grant project. Continued formalized work will take place in Q1 of 2024 as we onboard a new RAMP Director, John Hagy, who will support this project. An internal team meeting to discuss the grant project, scope of work, and grant commitments was held on Tuesday, November 28, including Verge and RAMP team members.

Projects in Process of Contracting:

ACA Classical and CTE Institute

Materials and Machinery Cluster Scale-Up



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IV. JLARC Report: Recommendations Summary

- *Joint Legislative Audit Review Commission Directive: Review GO Virginia with an eye toward legislative intent:*
 - *Promote Regional Collaboration*
 - *Grow and Diversify Regional Economies*
- *Process: interview DHCD Staff, Regional Stakeholders, and State Board Members and also review relevant reporting outcomes data*



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IV. JLARC Report: Recommendations Summary

- *Summary of Results: 16 Recommendations and 2 Policy Considerations*
- *Recommendations fall into 3 categories:*
 - *Creation of a clearer and more accurate outcomes reporting process*
 - *Make programmatic eligibility changes including better definitions of traded sector industry activities as well as the consideration of healthcare as a fundable project type*
 - *Create flexibility for Regions to access the Fund, including flexibilities in the Competitive Fund and lowering match requirements*



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IV. JLARC Report: Recommendations Summary

- *Takeaways and Reasons to be Encouraged*
 - *All of the recommendations in the report are clearly actionable*
 - *Many of the recommendations were already underway prior to the report being written, including Competitive Fund changes and healthcare discussions happening with the Healthcare Investment Taskforce established at the last Board meeting*
 - *DHCD staff is working on developing a plan of action to implement the JLARC recommendations and we're excited about the efficiencies suggested*



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V. JLARC Study Discussion and Next Steps

- *Program Evaluation Committee – Designation of Chair, Todd Stottlemeyer*
- *Governance and Policy Committee – Designation of Chair, Emily O’Quinn*