

REGION 2 COUNCIL BULLETIN

▶ UPDATES

GOVA State Board - December 9th

- Region 2, 3, & 7 Chairs submitted an open letter to the state board to consider revising the cap on planning grant allocations
- **Approved:** VT Corporate Research Center Project RISE (Regional Initiative for Startups and Entrepreneurship) (implementation grant)
- **Approved:** Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor (Statewide Competitive planning grant)
- **Approved:** 2025 Region 2 Growth & Diversification Plan

Governance & Policy Committee - Dec. 15th

- Discussion on Planning Grant Cap
 - No decision made; committee requested more information from DHCD staff and would like to hear from councils.
- Discussion on funding Childcare Projects
 - No Decision made; committee requested additional information from DHCD staff before making a decision.

DHCD Administrative Decisions

- **Approved:** Vector Space Robotics Program Feasibility Study for LYH (planning grant)
- **Approved:** SBDC Business Preparedness Program NRV (Helene Business Recovery Initiative)

▶ COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATE

- **Leadership** - Effective January 1st, 2026
 - Chair - Paul Denham
 - Vice Chair - Richmond Vincent
- **New Members:**
 - Daniel DiMarco, AECOM
 - Dr. Frank Shushok Jr., Roanoke College
 - James Richard, JD, PDLR Law

IMPORTANT DATES

January 29th - Region 2 Executive Committee

February 10th - Region 2 Council Meeting

March 24th - State Board Meeting

April 15th - First Annual Region 2 Council Retreat (+ Region 2 Council Meeting)

▶ REGION 2 PROJECTS IN THE NEWS!

[Amelon Industrial Park](#)



A Region 2 project led by the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance in collaboration with Amherst County and the Town of Amherst has resulted in a Tier 5 site that is now home to a 45,000 square foot manufacturing building. The facility can accommodate one to four tenants and includes an additional 20,000 SF expansion opportunity, with the 11.5-acre site already graded to support future growth.

GOVA Refresh!

Q: Can a subgrantee have more than one active grant at once?

A: Yes, a subgrantee can apply for, and be awarded, additional grants while they have active grants.

Connect with Executive Committee Members

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