

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010

Biennial Report

To the

Governor and General Assembly

On

Virginia's Planning District Commissions

September 2010

I. Executive Summary

Virginia has 21 planning district commissions (PDCs) – voluntary associations of local governments intended to foster intergovernmental cooperation by bringing together local elected and appointed officials and involved citizens to discuss common needs and determine solutions to regional issues.

The Virginia General Assembly created the statutory framework for the creation of the PDCs in 1968 through the passage of the Virginia Area Development Act. In 1995, the General Assembly modified the Area Development Act through the adoption of the Regional Cooperation Act (Chapter 42, Title 15.2, *Code of Virginia*). The Regional Cooperation Act clearly articulates that PDCs were created to provide a forum for state and local government to address issues of a regional nature.

Another purpose of PDCs is to encourage and facilitate local government cooperation in addressing, on a regional basis, problems of greater than local significance. This mission is accomplished through a variety of means, including the development of regional strategic plans with participation from local governing bodies, the business community, citizen organizations, and other interested parties.

Section 15.2-4215 of the *Code of Virginia* requires each PDC to submit an annual report to its member local governments and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) on how the PDC has met the provisions of the Regional Cooperation Act. Further, Section 36-139.6 of the *Code of Virginia* provides that DHCD is to submit a biennial report to the Governor and General Assembly, as well as certain other state agencies, which includes findings as to compliance by the PDCs with the Regional Cooperation Act. Based on their 2009 and 2010 annual reports, Virginia's planning district commissions are meeting the overall intent of the Regional Cooperation Act.

II. Biennial Planning District Commission Report

Overview

Virginia has 21 planning district commissions (PDCs) – voluntary associations of local governments intended to foster intergovernmental cooperation by bringing together local elected and appointed officials and involved citizens to discuss common needs and determine solutions to regional issues.

The Virginia General Assembly created the statutory framework for the creation of the PDCs in 1968 through the passage of the Virginia Area Development Act. In 1995, the General Assembly modified the Area Development Act through the adoption of the Regional Cooperation Act (Chapter 42, Title 15.2 of the *Code of Virginia*). The Regional Cooperation Act clearly articulates that PDCs were created to provide a forum for state and local government to address issues of a regional nature.

Another purpose of PDCs is to encourage and facilitate local government cooperation in addressing, on a regional basis, problems of greater than local significance. This cooperation is intended to help local governments solve their problems by enhancing the ability to recognize and analyze regional opportunities and take account of regional influences in planning and implementing public policies and services.

One important mechanism in helping localities meet these goals is the requirement that each PDC complete a regional strategic plan with participation from local governing bodies, the business community, citizen organizations, and other interested parties. The strategic plan is required to include regional goals and objectives, strategies to meet those goals, and mechanisms for measuring progress. The intent of the plan is to help promote the orderly and efficient development of the physical, social, and economic elements of the planning district.

In addition to the strategic planning requirement, the Regional Cooperation Act identifies other duties of the planning district commissions:

- To conduct studies on issues and problems of regional significance;
- To identify and study potential opportunities for cost savings and staffing efficiencies through coordinated local government efforts;
- To identify mechanisms for the coordination of local interests on a regional basis;
- To implement services upon the request of member local governments;
- To provide technical assistance to local governments;
- To serve as a liaison between local governments and state agencies as requested;
- To review local government aid applications as required by applicable state and federal law and regulation;
- To develop regional functional area plans as deemed necessary by the commission or as requested by member local governments;
- To assist state agencies, as requested, in the development of substate plans;

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- To participate in a statewide geographic information system, the Virginia Geographic Information Network, as directed by the Department of Planning and Budget; and
- To collect and maintain demographic, economic, and other data concerning the region and member local governments and act as a state data center affiliate in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission.

In support of these duties, the General Assembly appropriated \$2,665,583 to the 21 PDCs for FY 2009. However, this amount was reduced by 1.5 percent for FY 2009 in Governor Kaine's August 2008 Budget Reduction Plan. Consequently, the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) distributed \$2,625,599 to the PDCs in FY 2009.

In addition, the General Assembly appropriated \$200,000 in FY 2009 to the Commonwealth Regional Council for regional planning and economic development efforts, which was also reduced by 1.5 percent in Governor Kaine's reduction plan. Thus, DHCD distributed an additional \$197,000 to the Commonwealth Regional Council on a reimbursement basis during FY 2009.

Governor Kaine's Executive Amendments to the 2008-2010 Biennial Budget reduced funding to the PDCs by 9.1 percent in FY 2010, and the 2009 General Assembly included these cuts in the Budget that they approved (Chapter 781, 2009), thereby reducing the appropriation to the PDCs to \$2,423,025. However, Governor Kaine's FY 2010 Budget Reduction Plan, which was released on September 8, 2009, further reduced funding to the PDCs by an additional 10 percent in FY 2010. Therefore, DHCD distributed \$2,180,724 to the PDCs in FY 2010.

Each PDC is required to submit an annual report to its member local governments and DHCD by September 1 of each year. The report, at a minimum, is required to describe the activities conducted by the PDCs during the preceding fiscal year and document how the commission met the provisions of the Regional Cooperation Act.

Summary Data FY 2009-2010

The annual report format requires the PDCs to consider four elements of performance. Each PDC is asked to document progress in developing and implementing strategic planning in the planning district; to describe all activities accomplished with respect to the duties assigned under the Regional Cooperation Act; to highlight successes and achievements of special note with regional efforts in cooperation; and to submit a work program for the coming year that includes a budget and a list of member jurisdictions and commission members. The responses for Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010 are summarized on the pages that follow. Tables showing the summary of PDC responses to individual elements of the Regional Cooperation Act requirements appear in Appendices A – G.

Regional Strategic Planning

Asked to document progress in developing and implementing strategic planning in the planning district, 12 out of the 20 PDCs required to do so (60 percent) reported that they had formally adopted a regional strategic plan.¹ According to the documentation provided, the PDCs that have officially adopted strategic plans are:

- New River Valley (PDC 4)
- Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (PDC 5)
- Central Shenandoah (PDC 6)
- Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission (PDC 7)
- Thomas Jefferson (PDC 10)
- Region 2000 Local Government Council (PDC 11)
- West Piedmont (PDC 12)
- Southside (PDC 13)
- Commonwealth Regional Council (PDC 14)
- Richmond Regional (PDC 15)
- George Washington Regional Commission (PDC 16)
- Northern Neck (PDC 17)

Of the eight PDCs required to do so that have not officially adopted strategic plans, all are addressing the requirement through the development of multiple strategic plans for specific program areas (e.g., economic development, transportation, etc.) or through other means.

LENOWISCO Planning District Commission engages in strategic planning activities as a member of the Virginia Coalfield Coalition and with the Region 2020 process, which includes the greater Tri-Cities region of Tennessee and Virginia. The Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission is focusing its strategic planning efforts in the areas of water and sewer; economic development; solid waste management; housing and transportation. The Richmond Regional Planning District Commission established a partnership with the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce to form the Capital Region Collaborative, which has brought together all sectors of the Richmond region to develop a regional strategic plan.

¹ The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (PDC 8) is exempt from the requirement to adopt a strategic plan because its regional planning is conducted by a multi-state council of governments.

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The Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission's [RVARC's] first Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy [CED] was approved by the Economic Development Administration in 2009 and the Commission completed its first update to the CEDS in Spring 2010. With an approved CEDS in place, RVARC staff submitted all information required to begin the process of becoming an Economic Development District. Staff anticipates designation within 12-18 months.

---Highlight reported by the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

... The Tobacco Heritage Trail system will have major implications for economically distressed Southside. The trail system will serve not only residents as a community asset, it will provide some badly needed entrepreneurial opportunities—bed and breakfasts, camping stabling facilities, bike and/or tack shops—as well as add local revenue through tourism dollars. Southside Planning District is assisting with project coordination and funding application assistance. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, [Virginia Department of Transportation] VDOT, Tobacco Commission, and Rural Development are assisting with project funding. Other funding was provided through the *Virginia Works* program. Construction of the first phase, located in Mecklenburg and Brunswick, was completed in December 2009. Also in 2009, \$6 million from the ARRA “Stimulus” fund was awarded to complete a 17-mile trail segment in Brunswick. Constuction plan development is underway for the next two phases in Halifax and Brunswick counties.

---Highlight reported by the Southside Planning District Commission

[Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission] TJPDC contracted with the Rivanna River Basin Commission (RRBC) to conduct a study of the efficiency of stormwater best management practice (BMPs) to reduce the volume and velocity of stormwater runoff, and the ability to remove pollutants from runoff. TJPDC developed the Monitoring Plan, researched and identified required equipment, and began overseeing sample collection at the Charlottesville High School bioretention filter... TJPDC will continue to partner with the RRBC and a team of University of Virginia professors and students to collect data on the biofilter's performance during storm events over the next year... The project was funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation with grant money provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

---Highlight reported by the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission

Duties Performed

The PDCs were asked to provide a concise description of all activities accomplished pursuant to the duties assigned under the Regional Cooperation Act. To facilitate summarizing the data for each of the duties prescribed by the Act, responses were grouped by the following predominant functional areas:

- Infrastructure
- Housing
- Administration
- Zoning and Planning
- Economic Development
- Environment
- Disaster Planning
- Telecommunications and Technology
- Work Force
- Transportation
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Community Development

To conduct studies on issues and problems of regional significance

The PDCs reported conducting 296 such studies in FY 2009 and 305 in FY 2010 for a total of 601 studies for the two-year period.

Over the biennium, 369 studies (61.4%) dealt with the functional areas of transportation, environmental concerns, economic development and infrastructure. All but one PDC conducted at least one study in the most frequently addressed area of transportation. The Richmond Regional PDC (PDC 15) reported conducting 38 studies on transportation issues over the two year period.

In addition, eleven other PDCs (New River Valley, Central Shenandoah, Northern Shenandoah Valley, Rappahannock-Rapidan, Thomas Jefferson, Region 2000, West Piedmont, George Washington Regional, Northern Neck, Accomack-Northampton and Hampton Roads) conducted five or more transportation studies during the 2009-2010 biennium.

In order of frequency, studies addressed transportation (165); environment (98); economic development (55); infrastructure (51); disaster planning (49); zoning and planning (47); community development (45); housing (26); telecommunications and technology (16); administration (12); GIS (12); work force issues (12); strategic planning (9); and other issues (4).

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The [West Piedmont] Planning District Commission is contracted by a grant with the Virginia Department of Transportation [VDOT] to carry on a rural transportation planning component of the VDOT's transportation planning mission. In addition, the VDOT works with the Danville (Pittsylvania) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to carry out transportation planning inside the MPO's transportation study area. By resolve, the MPO's Administrative Agent and transportation planning staff is the West Piedmont Planning District Commission. At the present time, the PDC is involved in two key projects: 1) development of the Regional Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan for Year 2035 and 2) the Danville (Pittsylvania) Year 2035 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

---Highlight reported by the West Piedmont Planning District Commission

[George Washington Regional Commission] GWRC and [Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization] FAMPO staff continues to work with local government Chief Administrative Officers and senior local government personnel, and other regional stakeholders on the definition of a regional "vision" and identifying opportunities for collaborative problem-solving for local governments. Progress on the regional land use scenario planning process in the past year will help advance the development of a regional vision.

---Highlight reported by the George Washington Regional Commission

The Commonwealth Regional Council Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan is currently being updated by means of a recently awarded hazard mitigation grant. In October 2009, the Commonwealth Regional Council was awarded disaster mitigation funds (\$56,250) to update the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Planning District #14. As part of the Plan update, the Amelia County Hazard Mitigation Plan will be incorporated into the Regional Plan Update (was not part of the initial Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan). This award was the result of an application submitted on behalf of the participating localities (regional application).

---Highlight reported by the Commonwealth Regional Council

To identify and study potential opportunities for local cost savings and staffing efficiencies through coordinated local government efforts.

During FY 2009-2010, the majority (56.0%) of these studies focused on transportation, environmental concerns, infrastructure and economic development.

The functional areas that generated the fewest studies of potential cost savings or staff efficiencies were health and human services (17) and work force issues (10).

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With the initial phase of this project [Regional eCorridor Park] now completed, the planning/development of this project continues to move forward with the continued focus on a campus style design concept which includes the second building to be constructed adjacent to the recently completed phase I building which also houses the LENOWISCO office building. These buildings feature customizable space, an important feature to a multi-tenant facility such as this project. The building is owned and operated by the Scott County Economic Development Authority and tenants pay competitive lease rates for the use of the facility to cover operational costs and normal overhead – thus making it immediately sustainable as a facility. The completed facility could house approximately 65,000 square feet of multi-tenant space.

---Highlight reported by the LENOWISCO Planning District Commission

The [Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission] continued to operate the Middle Peninsula Failing Onsite Wastewater System Repair Program. This program provides grants and loans to repair failing septic systems resulting in improvements to water quality. The program recently secured \$250,000 in Green Reserve Project Funds from the Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund.

---Highlight reported by the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission

The Accomack-Northampton Regional Housing Authority, staffed by the A-NPDC, partnered with the Virginia Community Development Corporation (VCDC) to finance and construct the Crispus Attucks Apartments for low income residents of the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The project is supported by the sale of Low Income Housing Tax Credits, syndicated by VCDC, and Housing Development Advisors provided technical assistance. The 22 apartments located in Exmore, Virginia were completed in December 2009 and are fully occupied.

---Highlight reported by the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

To identify mechanisms for the coordination of local interests on a regional basis.

During FY 2009-2010, 21 PDCs reported 956 instances in which mechanisms were identified for coordinating local interests on a regional basis. One-half of the mechanisms identified were in the areas of environmental concerns, transportation, administration and economic development. For the biennium, the PDCs identified the areas of work force issues (7), strategic planning (18) and telecommunications and technology (28) as having the least potential for coordinating local interests regionally.

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The Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission has been a major participant in the development of the Creative Economy in Southwest Virginia with a special emphasis on cultural heritage tourism and associated economic and community development opportunities in the 19-county region. The PDC has a representative on the Boards of Directors of The Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, and 'Round the Mountain: Southwest Virginia's Artisan Network. The PDC Executive Director also was appointed as a member of the Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Commission and serves on the Management Team of Heartwood: Southwest Virginia's Artisan Gateway. These initiatives along with the Coal Heritage Trail are focused on transforming Southwest Virginia into a world-class destination for cultural heritage tourism.

---Highlight reported by the Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission

The NNPDC has completed a Regional Broadband Planning Study assessing the need for broadband services within the region and preliminary engineering. An application has been submitted to the NTIA Rural Broadband Funding Program for implementation. A Broadband Authority has been formed to own and operate the open-access system.

---Highlight reported by the Northern Neck Planning District Commission

As a collateral activity of the Northern Virginia Emergency Response system, NVRC was asked by the Virginia Office of Emergency Preparedness, along with Northern Virginia's emergency managers, animal control officers and shelter directors, to facilitate group procurement of trailers and supplies for handling pets during a large-scale crisis. Recent disasters have demonstrated that – besides providing for humane treatment of animals during a crisis – pet safety can be a key to protecting human lives when people refuse to abandon their animal companions even during dire circumstances. This project was unique for two reasons: There is no other model like it in the country, and the success of the project relied on a regional planning organization to coordinate the planning, training, exercising, and purchasing of trailers and related supplies... In all, 8 trailers, deployed to 8 jurisdictions, were jointly purchased and outfitted, and joint training and exercises were performed.

---Highlight reported by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission

To implement services upon request of member localities.

The 21 planning district commissions reported implementing services at the request of local governments 222 times in FY 2009 and 220 in 2010, for a two-year total of 442. During that period, New River Valley (36) and Commonwealth Regional (34) reported the highest number of services provided to member localities.

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The Pulaski County Public Service Authority (PSA) is expanding water and sewer service in the eastern part of the county to serve residents and the New River Valley Commerce Park. The \$6.4 million project is funded in part by a \$3.1 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. The project will increase the water and sewer capacity of the New River Valley Commerce Park to 1 million gallons per day (MGD) and allow for an additional 1 MGD in the area. The PDC provided grant administration assistance, easement acquisition, and environmental clearance for the Pulaski County PSA and will continue to provide assistance for the coming year.

---Highlight reported by the New River Planning District Commission

The Region 2000 Services Authority [operated by the Region 2000 Local Government Council] completed its second successful full year of operation. Within this time period, the Authority managed 250,000 tons of solid waste for five communities that resulted in over \$1 million dollars in savings for our members and maintained a very low tipping fee of \$25 per ton for members. The Authority has also compiled recycling data from each member community and calculated a regional recycling rate of 32% of the waste stream.

---Highlight reported by the Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council

To provide technical assistance to member localities.

This component of the Regional Cooperation Act accounted for the greatest number of activities – 1,408 during Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010 – reported by the planning district commissions. As might be expected, the amount of technical assistance varies considerably by functional area. Transportation assistance accounts for 197 instances over the two-year period. In order of frequency, the other areas where technical assistance was provided included geographic information systems (181); infrastructure (157); economic development (156); environmental concerns (148); community development (132); zoning and planning (119); and governmental administration (96).

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As the result of a regional telecommunications planning project, Carroll and Grayson counties and the City of Galax formed a regional telecommunications authority called The Wired Road Authority. The Wired Road will connect every business, industry, government office, community facility, school, and residence to a broadband fiber-optic network. The network, which was turned on in January 2009, is an open-access, open-services network capable of 100 Mb connections. To date, the Wired Road has secured approximately \$3,000,000 in local, state, and Federal funding. Over the past twelve months, MRPDC staff has been working with the Wired Road Authority to apply for ARRA funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration that will build out the network to the most populated areas of the region and connect 90 percent of the region's community anchor institutions.

---Highlight reported by the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission

The HRPDC provides technical assistance to cities, counties and towns through its local comprehensive planning program, including development of draft plans, ordinances, etc. and analysis of the impacts of various development proposals. Representative of these efforts include assistance in research and analysis in the development of comprehensive plans to satisfy the requirements of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act; research on Best Management Practices and other engineering design approaches to addressing stormwater, water supply and ground water management issues; and research on urban design and growth management issues.

---Highlight reported by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

To serve as liaison between localities and state agencies as requested.

PDCs most often served as liaison between local and state government when the issues dealt with transportation (20.0%), the environment (17.8%), economic development (10.5%) and community development (10.5%). The planning district commissions served as liaison less frequently in the areas of work force issues, health and human services and planning and land development control.

The Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission continues to take a leadership role in assisting the Commonwealth in regards to regional compliance with the Clean Water Act. The Commission has been active on behalf of its member and, in several instances, adjoining jurisdictions in the coordinated development and implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) watershed studies. This work has been done at the request of the Virginia Departments of Environmental Quality and Conservation and Recreation.

---Highlight reported by the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

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This year the Crater PDC completed its next significant milestone toward the establishment of the Virginia Logistics Research Center (VLRC). This initiative came about as a result of recognition that Fort Lee's expanded mission of "Logistics Center of the Army," along with the region's strategic location, extensive transportation network, and growing number of logistics and TWD [transportation, warehousing and distribution] firms could be exploited to encourage increased private sector investment and job creation. The very positive feasibility study, undertaken with support from DHCD, along with the completion of the strategic plan this year utilizing US Department of Labor WIRED Grant funding, reveal that the VLRC can brand the Crater Region as the recognized center of excellence for logistics research, management support products and tools and innovative ideas.

---Highlight reported by the Crater Planning District Commission

To review local government aid applications as required by §15.2-4213, Code of Virginia and other state or federal law or regulation.

All but one PDC reported reviewing local aid applications in FY 2009 and 2010.

To develop regional functional area plans as deemed necessary by the commission or as requested by member localities.

During FY 2009 and 2010, the majority (53.7%) of the functional area plans developed by PDCs were in the areas of transportation, the environment and economic development. During that time period, PDCs developed the fewest functional area plans in the areas of geographic information systems and health and human services. No PDCs reported developing functional area plans concerning work force issues in either year.

Public mobility programs have become a central element in the region's transportation and human services planning initiatives. The NSVRC applied for and received a grant for a demonstration project to deliver commuter bus service from the Winchester area into Northern Virginia. This effort involved significant coordination with private sector transportation providers and local governments to assess needs, identify operating and capital costs, and secure funding. The project was successfully launched last year and has enhanced the services that can be provided through our Commuter Assistance Program. It is a significant component of the region's increasing focus on public mobility. In addition, efforts are underway to assess our region's transit infrastructure and promote system connectivity throughout the valley.

---Highlight reported by the Northern Shenandoah Valley Planning District Commission

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One of the regional initiatives identified by the RRPDC Board is the coordination of regional infrastructure planning efforts. RRPDC staff continued this initiative in FY10 with the preparation of a Regional Water and Sewer Study. This study identifies areas currently served by public water and sewer service in the Richmond Region and identifies the current demands for these systems in comparison to the capacities of these facilities. This study will create a regional picture of the communities' water and sewer systems and will be an important tool in the Region's strategic planning efforts. This analysis will also provide important regional information to assist in the Region's economic development efforts. In addition, the identification of existing and future water and sewer service areas will be helpful in the Region's land use planning initiatives.

---Highlight reported by the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission

To assist state agencies, as requested, in the development of substate plans.

The PDCs assisted state agencies in the development of substate plans 133 times in FY 2009 and 142 times in 2010, for a total of 275 instances during the two-year period.

The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC) was awarded \$403,150 to fund the Shenandoah Valley Regional Energy Efficiency Strategy. Twenty localities in the regional will benefit from the project. The project is being funded with economic stimulus monies through the Virginia Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program administered by the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy. The project was among 26 finalists chosen from a pool of 148 proposals submitted statewide. The grant will be used to help local governments reduce energy use and save on energy costs.

---Highlight reported by the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

To participate in a statewide geographic information system, the Virginia Geographic Network, as directed by the Department of Planning and Budget.

All 21 PDCs reported participation in the Virginia Geographic Information Network during the 2009-2010 period.

To collect and maintain demographic, economic, and other data concerning the region and member localities, and act as a state data center affiliate in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission.

During the reporting period, all 21 PDCs listed significant activities with respect to demographic, economic and other data collection and dissemination in addition to serving as an affiliate state data center.

Conclusion

It is important to note that, while the Regional Cooperation Act articulates specific duties of the PDCs, it does not require that each PDC conduct activities in every functional area. Rather, each PDC is challenged to tailor its services to meet the diverse needs of its member localities. Based on their FY 2009 and 2010 annual reports, Virginia's planning district commissions are meeting the overall intent of the Regional Cooperation Act.

The Regional Cooperation Act also recognizes that dual membership by localities in PDCs may be advantageous to member jurisdictions. Section 15.2-4220 of the *Code of Virginia* permits any locality which is a member of a PDC to become a member of an additional PDC upon such terms and conditions as mutually agreed to by the locality and the additional PDC. Accordingly, the following jurisdictions hold dual membership in PDCs as indicated:

- Charles City County: Richmond Regional PDC and Crater PDC
- Chesterfield County: Richmond Regional PDC and Crater PDC
- Franklin County: Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission and West Piedmont PDC
- Gloucester County: Middle Peninsula PDC and Hampton Roads PDC
- Surry County: Crater PDC and Hampton Roads PDC

A complete listing of the PDCs and their member jurisdictions is provided in Appendix H.

Virginia's Planning District Commissions
 FY 09-10
 Appendix A
 Strategic Planning and Studies of Regional Significance

Planning District Commission	Strategic Plan Adopted?	Strategic Plan Adoption in Process?	Number of Studies of Reg. Signif.		Focus of Studies of Regional Significance														
			FY09	FY10	Infra-structure	Housing	Adminis-tration	Zoning/Planning	Econ. Develop.	Environ-ment	Strategic Planning	Disaster Planning	Telecom/Techno.	Work Force	Trans-portation	GIS	Comm. Develop.	Other	
LENOWISCO	No	Yes	8	6	4				5	2							3		
Cumberland Plateau	No	Yes	3	3						2	2						2		
Mount Rogers	No	Elements Adopted	4	3	2					1	2						2		
New River Valley	Yes	N/A	10	24	8	1			3	3	1	1	2	1	1		12		1
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany	Yes	N/A	5	11	5	2	1		1	6	1								
Central Shenandoah	Yes	N/A	10	10		2				4	4		4				6		
Northern Shenandoah Valley	Yes	Annual updates	10	13		2				1	5	1	2			1	10		1
Northern Virginia	N/A	N/A	11	6	2				1		9					2	1		2
Rappahannock-Rapidan	No	Elements Adopted	21	20		2	4		2	4	7		1	1	1	14	1	4	
Thomas Jefferson	Yes	N/A	15	11		7	1				5					10		3	
Region 2000	Yes	Update in progress	8	7	2					3	3			2		5			
West Piedmont	Yes	N/A	20	20	2					5	4	2	4	2	2	18	1		
Southside	Yes	N/A	8	9	4	3	1			3		3			1	2			
Commonwealth Regional	Yes	N/A	3	4							2		2			3			
Richmond Regional	Yes	Yes	74	65	8	2	4		23	4	10	2	6	4	2	38	4	32	
George Washington Regional	Yes	Under review	22	12	3	1			2		5		1			17	3	2	
Northern Neck	Yes	N/A	16	16					6	8	4		6	2		6			
Middle Peninsula	No	Yes	6	10	2				1		4		2	2		2			2
Crater	No	Elements Adopted	5	4						5					2	1		1	
Accomack-Northampton	No	Elements Adopted	7	12	2	4				2	4		2			5			
Hampton Roads	No	Elements Adopted	30	39	7					3	2	26		17	2	8	3	1	
Totals			296	305	51	26	12		47	55	98	9	49	16	12	165	12	45	4

**Virginia's Planning District Commissions
FY 09-10
Appendix B
Identify and Study Potential Opportunities for
Local Cost Savings and Regional Efficiencies**

Planning District Commission	Local Cost Savings and Regional Efficiencies Identified and/or Studied												
	Infra-structure	Housing	Adminis-tration	Zoning/Planning	Econ. Develop.	Environ-ment	Health & Human Svcs.	Disaster Planning	Telecom/ Techno.	Work Force	Trans- portation	GIS	Comm. Develop.
LENOWISCO	12				4				2		6	2	2
Cumberland Plateau	6				1	4						10	
Mount Rogers	1		5		1				2				1
New River Valley	6	3	3		3	4	2	2	1	1	4		
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany	6	4			5	2				1	1		
Central Shenandoah	3	2				6		2	1		2		
Northern Shenandoah Valley	1	1	2	4	2	6			1		4	2	
Northern Virginia		2	3			2	4	2				2	
Rappahannock-Rapidan	1	1	4		8	8	2	4	1	1	8	1	4
Thomas Jefferson		5	2	1		2	1	2			4	2	1
Region 2000	2	1	4			1			2	1			
West Piedmont	5	1	4	9	13	6		3	6	2	22	7	
Southside	6		2		8				2	1	2	2	2
Commonwealth Regional	10			3	8	10		7	5	1	22		10
Richmond Regional	8	2	4	23	4	10		6	4	2	38	4	32
George Washington Regional		1		2		3	1	1			15	1	2
Northern Neck	8				6	8	4				8	4	
Middle Peninsula	4	1	2		1	4	3	1	1		2		
Crater			4		5	1					2	2	
Accomack-Northampton	3	4		3		3		2	7		3		1
Hampton Roads	7	2	5		5	18		10	1		2		1
Totals	89	30	44	45	74	98	17	42	36	10	145	39	56

Virginia's Planning District Commissions
FY 09-10
Appendix C
Identify Mechanisms for the Coordination of Local Interests on a Regional Basis

Planning District Commission	Mechanisms for Coordination of Local Interests on a Regional Basis													
	Infra-structure	Housing	Adminis-tration	Zoning/Planning	Econ. Dev.	Environ-ment	Strategic Planning	Health & Human Svcs.	Disaster Planning	Telecom/ Techno	Work Force	Trans- portation	GIS	Comm. Develop.
LENOWISCO	12	2	8	3	16	8	2	4		4		7	34	12
Cumberland Plateau	13	1	2	2	12	2						2		4
Mount Rogers			4	1	2		2			2				1
New River Valley	2	3	6	8	6	7			2	2		5		3
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany	4	2	7		5	1						1		
Central Shenandoah	2	2	2		10	10	2	1	6	1	2	6	2	4
Northern Shenandoah Valley	1	2	4	4	1	8	1	1	1			4		2
Northern Virginia	3		6	5	1	20		2	4					1
Rappahannock-Rapidan		1	8	4	4	5		4	2	1	1	7	1	4
Thomas Jefferson		5	1		1	7		1				6		4
Region 2000	1		2				2			1		8	1	2
West Piedmont	8		14	4	12	4	4		4	2	2	13	4	
Southside	6		4									2	2	2
Commonwealth Regional			3	2	2	2		1	2	1		2	3	2
Richmond Regional	6	2	4	23	4	10	2	2	6	4	2	38	4	32
George Washington Regional	1	4	3	5	4	9	1	1	3	1		6	2	4
Northern Neck			4		8	6		2	2			2		
Middle Peninsula	2	1	12	12	1	9	1	7	1	1				
Crater			2	2	5	8			2			8		1
Accomack-Northampton		22	1	5	3	3	1	2	4	6		3		
Hampton Roads	6	6	8		1	25		4	21	2		10	2	
Totals	67	53	105	80	98	144	18	33	60	28	7	130	55	78

Virginia's Planning District Commissions
FY 09-10
Appendix D
Implement Services to Member Localities Upon Request and
Provide Technical Assistance to Member Localities

Planning District Commission	Services		Technical Assistance Provided												
	FY09	FY10	Infra-structure	Housing	Adminis-tration	Zoning/Planning	Econ. Dev.	Environ-ment	Health & Human Svcs.	Disaster Planning	Telecom/ Techno	Work Force	Trans- portation	GIS	Comm. Develop.
LENOWISCO	0	0	58	9	23	9	50	18	4		10		42	50	50
Cumberland Plateau	0	0	4		4	2	5							2	2
Mount Rogers	8	8	3	1	2						2			6	2
New River Valley	36	0	12	5	12	13	11	3		2	2		19	7	2
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany	10	6	1			5	4			1			2	4	3
Central Shenandoah	30	33	8	4		9	5	5		5	1		16	10	
Northern Shenandoah Valley	0	0	3	8		7		6	4		3		3	8	2
Northern Virginia	0	0	1			1		11	3	1					1
Rappahannock-Rapidan	9	0		1	4		4	11	2	3	1		8	1	4
Thomas Jefferson	0	10	1	1		1					1		6	1	5
Region 2000	24	11	3	3	3	1	1	3	1	1		1	13	2	7
West Piedmont	26	27	6		10	8	20	12	1	4	27	4	22	34	19
Southside	8	10	1	1	4	2	4							5	1
Commonwealth Regional	0	34	7		1	3	7	8	1	1	4		14		6
Richmond Regional	27	29	6	2	2	10	2	2		4			10	6	12
George Washington Regional	9	10	4	2		1		2	1					3	3
Northern Neck	10	10			12	4	4	8			4		4	4	
Middle Peninsula	0	0	22	18	8	18	32	42	9	33	8	3	17	11	7
Crater	8	6	5		1	4	2			1		2		25	4
Accomack-Northampton	9	15	4	2		1	2		2				11		2
Hampton Roads	8	11	8	4	10	20	3	17		3	1		10	2	
Totals	222	220	157	61	96	119	156	148	28	59	64	10	197	181	132

Virginia's Planning District Commissions
FY 09-10
Appendix E
Liaison Between Localities and State Agencies

Planning District Commission	Liaison Activities FY 09-10													Review of Local Gov't. Aid Applications
	Infra-structure	Housing	Adminis-tration	Zoning/ Planning	Econ. Develop.	Environ-ment	Health & Human Svcs.	Disaster Planning	Telecom/ Techno	Work Force	Trans- portation	GIS	Comm. Develop	
LENOWISCO	32		31	6	50	10			10		41	50	50	Yes
Cumberland Plateau	16	2	12		10	7		2	2		2	16	19	Yes
Mount Rogers			1			3					2		1	Yes
New River Valley	3	4	2	2	9	7	1	5	3	1	9		2	Yes
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany	1		2	1	4	7		1	1	1	1		2	Yes
Central Shenandoah	4	4			1	22		2			2		1	Yes
Northern Shenandoah Valley	1	2			1	4	2	2	2		15	2	5	Yes
Northern Virginia	1			2		12		2			1		2	Yes
Rappahannock-Rapidan		1	2		4	10		3	1	1	10	1	4	Yes
Thomas Jefferson		3	1			2	1	1	1		5	2	2	Yes
Region 2000	1		1		1	3	1	1		2	3	1	3	Yes
West Piedmont	2		11	4	9	7		4	9		28	18	2	Yes
Southside	3	4		2	8	4			1		2		6	Yes
Commonwealth Regional	3			4		8		9			19		3	Yes
Richmond Regional	6	2	2	8	3	8		6	2	2	38	4	6	Yes
George Washington Regional		2		4		1	1	2	2		12	2	4	No
Northern Neck		4			4	24	4				4			Yes
Middle Peninsula	6	1		1	4	17	5	3	2		4	3	1	Yes
Crater	1		2		6	5		2		2	2		1	Yes
Accomack-Northampton	1	1	1		1	5	1				5	1	1	Yes
Hampton Roads	2	6	6	1	2	32		23			17	2	2	Yes
Totals	83	36	74	35	117	198	16	68	36	9	222	102	117	

Virginia's Planning District Commissions
 FY 09-10
 Appendix F
 Functional Area Plans Developed

Planning District Commission	Functional Area Plans Developed													
	Infra-structure	Housing	Adminis-tration	Zoning/Planning	Econ. Dev.	Environ-ment	Strategic Planning	Health & Human Svcs.	Disaster Planning	Telecom/ Techno	Work Force	Trans- portation	GIS	Comm. Develop.
LENOWISCO	6		2		4					6		4		4
Cumberland Plateau	2				2	2						2		
Mount Rogers	2				1	2						2		
New River Valley	3			2	1	4			4	1		6		
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany		1			2	3						1		
Central Shenandoah					6	5			1			3		
Northern Shenandoah Valley		1				4		1				11		1
Northern Virginia						1		1	2					
Rappahannock-Rapidan		5	4	2	7	7		1	3	1		9	1	4
Thomas Jefferson		3	1			4			2			9		
Region 2000	1				4	2			1	3		7		
West Piedmont	2		2		2	4	2		4	2		13	2	
Southside	2				2		2		2			4		
Commonwealth Regional				3	3	5	1		1			3		
Richmond Regional	6		1	8	1	2	2		2	2		8	2	8
George Washington Regional		1		1		2		1	1			6		
Northern Neck					2	6	4		6					
Middle Peninsula	3	1	3	3	3	5	2	1	2	3		3		1
Crater					2	2						3		
Accomack-Northampton	2	2				2								
Hampton Roads	9		1		2	6			4	1		3		
Totals	38	14	14	19	44	68	13	5	35	19	0	97	5	18

Virginia's Planning District Commissions
 FY 09-10
 Appendix G
 Other Activities

Planning District Commission	Assist State		GIS Participation		Data Collection	
	FY09	FY10	FY09	FY10	FY09	FY10
LENOWISCO	4	4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cumberland Plateau	4	5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mount Rogers	2	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
New River Valley	18	6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany	6	7	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Central Shenandoah	6	8	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northern Shenandoah Valley	6	8	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northern Virginia	1	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rappahannock-Rapidan	4	5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thomas Jefferson	4	5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Region 2000	10	9	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
West Piedmont	13	13	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Southside	5	5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commonwealth Regional	1	4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Richmond Regional	15	15	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
George Washington Regional	3	4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northern Neck	6	6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Middle Peninsula	1	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Crater	4	4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accomack-Northampton	3	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hampton Roads	17	26	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Totals	133	142				

Virginia's Planning District Commissions
and Their Member Local Governments
Appendix H

Planning District 1 - LENOWISCO Planning District Commission

The counties of Lee, Scott and Wise; the city of Norton; the towns of Appalachia, Big Stone Gap, Clinchport, Coeburn, Duffield, Dunganon, Gate City, Jonesville, Nickelsville, Pennington Gap, Pound, St. Charles, St. Paul, Weber City and Wise.

Planning District 2 - Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission

The counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell and Tazewell; the towns of Bluefield, Cedar Bluff, Cleveland, Clinchco, Clintwood, Grundy, Haysi, Honaker, Lebanon, Pocahontas, Richlands and Tazewell.

Planning District 3 - Mount Rogers Planning District Commission

The counties of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington and Wythe; the cities of Bristol and Galax; the towns of Abingdon, Chilhowie, Damascus, Fries, Glade Spring, Hillsville, Independence, Marion, Rural Retreat, Saltville, Troutdale and Wytheville.

Planning District 4 - New River Valley Planning District Commission

The counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski; the city of Radford; Radford University and Virginia Tech; the towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Dublin, Floyd, Glen Lyn, Narrows, Pearisburg, Pembroke, Pulaski and Rich Creek.

Planning District 5 - Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

The counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, *Franklin and Roanoke; the cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem; the towns of Clifton Forge, Buchanan, Fincastle, Iron Gate, New Castle, Troutville and Vinton.

Planning District 6 - Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

The counties of Augusta, Bath, Rockbridge, Rockingham and Highland; the cities of Buena Vista, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton and Waynesboro; the towns of Bridgewater, Broadway, Craigsville, Dayton, Elkton, Glasgow, Goshen, Grottoes, Monterey, Mount Crawford and Timberville.

Planning District 7 - Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission

The counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah and Warren; the city of Winchester; the towns of Berryville, Boyce, Edinburg, Front Royal, Luray, Middletown, Mount Jackson, New Market, Shenandoah, Stanley, Stephens City, Strasburg, Toms Brook and Woodstock.

Planning District 8 - Northern Virginia Regional Commission

The counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William; the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the towns of Dumfries, Herndon, Leesburg, Purcellville and Vienna.

Planning District 9 - Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

The counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock; the towns of Culpeper, Gordonsville, Madison, Orange, Remington, Warrenton and Washington.

Planning District 10 - Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission

The counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson; the city of Charlottesville.

Planning District 11 - Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council

The counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell; the cities of Bedford and Lynchburg; the towns of Altavista, Amherst, Appomattox and Brookneal.

Planning District 12 - West Piedmont Planning District Commission

The counties of *Franklin, Henry, Patrick and Pittsylvania; the cities of Danville and Martinsville; the town of Rocky Mount.

Planning District 13 - Southside Planning District Commission

The counties of Brunswick, Halifax and Mecklenburg; the towns of South Hill and South Boston.

Planning District 14 - Commonwealth Regional Council

The counties of Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg and Prince Edward; the town of Farmville; Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney College.

Planning District 15 - Richmond Regional Planning District Commission

The counties of *Charles City, *Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent and Powhatan; the city of Richmond; the town of Ashland.

Planning District 16 - George Washington Regional Commission

The counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania and Stafford; the city of Fredericksburg; the towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal.

Planning District 17 - Northern Neck Planning District Commission

The counties of Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland.

Planning District 18 - Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission

The counties of Essex, *Gloucester, King and Queen, King William, Mathews and Middlesex; the towns of Tappahannock, Urbanna and West Point.

Planning District 19 - Crater Planning District Commission

The counties of *Charles City, *Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Greensville, Prince George, *Surry and Sussex; the cities of Colonial Heights, Emporia, Hopewell and Petersburg; the towns of Claremont, Dendron, Jarratt, McKenney, Stony Creek, Surry, Wakefield and Waverly.

Planning District 22 - Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

The counties of Accomack and Northampton; the towns of Accomac, Belle Haven, Bloxom, Cape Charles, Cheriton, Chincoteague, Eastville, Exmore, Hallwood, Keller, Melfa, Nassawadox, Onancock, Onley, Painter, Parksley, Saxis, Tangier and Wachapreague.

Planning District 23 - Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

The counties of *Gloucester, Isle of Wight, James City, Southampton, *Surry and York; the cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach and Williamsburg.

*The following jurisdictions belong to more than one PDC as indicated:

Chesterfield County - Richmond Regional PDC and Crater PDC

Charles City County - Richmond Regional PDC and Crater PDC

Franklin County - Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission and West Piedmont PDC

Gloucester County - Middle Peninsula PDC and Hampton Roads PDC

Surry County – Crater PDC and Hampton Roads PDC