

August 11, 2023

The Honorable Janet D. Howell Co-Chair Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee 900 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219

Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee 900 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219

Co-Chair

The Honorable George L. Barker

The Honorable Barry D. Knight Chair House Appropriations Committee 900 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Annual Report on Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) per

§ 2.2-2240.2:1 (E)

Senators and Delegate:

I am writing to provide documentation of the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) Fund transactions during the 2022 fiscal year as required by § 2.2-2240.2:1(E) of the Code of Virginia. While the fund was not effective until July 1, 2022 (FY23), the numbers below reflect VEDP's sites program transactions for fiscal year 2022.

For the 2022 fiscal year that ended June 30, 2022, per Chapter 1 of the Acts of Assembly 2022, Special Session I, a total of \$5,562,000 was appropriated to VBRSP. Additionally, the program had uncommitted carryover funds totaling \$2,992,166 from previous fiscal years. Expenditures from the program made during the fiscal year totaled \$75,000. As of June 30, 2022, the program's cash balance was \$8,554,166, and the balance available for future commitments totaled \$1,547,516. It is important to note that VBRSP grants are paid on a reimbursement basis, which is why a cash balance remains.

From the program, a total of \$7,006,650 was committed from VBRSP to assist 14 localities to develop or characterize a site. VEDP made three awards for characterization grants and 11 awards for site development grants. Ten of these grants remain active. Summaries on these projects follow:

Site Characterization Grants:

1. <u>Campbell County:</u> **Dearing Ford Business and Industrial Park**. Site Characterization Grant awarded: \$2,500. This site was characterized for the first time as Tier 2. Work is complete, and all funds were awarded.

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- 2. <u>Russell County</u>: **Russell County Industrial Complex.** Site Characterization Grant awarded: \$2,900. This site was characterized for the first time as Tier 2. Work is complete, and all funds were awarded.
- 3. Shenandoah County: **Shen Valle Land.** Site Characterization Grant awarded: \$1,250. This site was characterized for the first time. The site has two tiers due to split zoning, with part of the site characterized as Tier 2 and the agriculturally zoned land characterized as Tier 1. Work is complete, and all funds were awarded.

Site Development Grants

- 1. <u>Botetourt County</u>: **Botetourt Center at Greenfield.** Site Development Grant awarded: \$362,700. Botetourt County was awarded funding to complete the design and permitting for sanitary sewer and road extension to Lot 3 within the Park as well as designing the pad for Lot 3. This work is underway.
- Franklin County: Dogwood Site at Summit View Business Park. Site
 Development Grant awarded: \$1,017,870. Franklin County was awarded funding
 to create a pad site at Summit View Business Park to attract businesses. This
 design is underway.
- 3. <u>Greensville County</u>: **Mid-Atlantic Advanced Manufacturing Center**. Site Development Grant awarded: \$605,000. Greensville County was awarded funding to design a natural gas extension to the industrial park. The locality is working with Columbia Gas through this process, and Columbia Gas is progressing through the design work.
- 4. Henry County: Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre. Site Development Grant awarded: \$1,036,250. The Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation was awarded funding to complete the design work for site, road, and water and sewer extensions to Tract 1. The funding is also to clear-cut the balance of Tract 1. This work is underway.
- 5. <u>Louisa County</u>: **Shannon Hill Regional Business Park**. Site Development Grant awarded: \$300,000. Louisa County was awarded funding to design wet utility extension from existing wet utilities at Zion Crossroads to the site. This work is underway.
- City of Norton: Project Intersection. Site Development Grant awarded: \$500,000. The City of Norton was awarded funding to create graded pads at a former mine site in the City of Norton. Progress is underway.

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- 7. <u>Pittsylvania County</u>: **Southern Virginia Megasite**. Site Development Grant awarded: \$1,312,400. The Danville-Pittsylvania Regional Industrial Facility Authority was awarded funding to create a 58-acre pad site. This work is underway.
- 8. <u>Prince Edward County</u>: **Heartland Innovation Technology Park**. Site Development Grant awarded: \$640,000. The Prince Edward County Industrial Development Authority was awarded funding to design wet utility extensions to the park. This work is underway.
- 9. <u>Pulaski County</u>: **New River Valley Commerce Park**. Site Development Grant awarded: \$300,000. Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority was awarded funding for design and permitting for grading at the park. The park is in the process of completing the professional services for these activities.
- 10. <u>Roanoke County</u>: **Wood Haven Technology Park.** Site Development Grant awarded: \$75,000. The Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority was awarded funding to plant a natural buffer between the site and the residential neighbors. This work is complete, and all funds have been distributed.
- 11. <u>City of Staunton</u>: **Staunton Crossing**. Site Development Grant awarded: \$850,780. The City of Staunton was awarded funding to complete essential due diligence and site engineering to raise the tier level to tier 4 readiness. This work is ongoing.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this program.

Sincerely,

Jason & Lowi Jason & Lowi Jason El Koubi President and Chief Executive Officer

JRE: co

cc The Honorable Caren Merrick Secretary of Commerce and Trade