



Abigail Spanberger
Governor

Carrie Chenery
Secretary of
Commerce and Trade

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Tamarah Holmes, PhD
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

July 14, 2026

The Honorable Abigail Spanberger
Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia
Patrick Henry Building
Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Louise Lucas
Chair, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee
201 North 9th Street, 13th Fl.
Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Luke E. Torian
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
201 North 9th Street, 13th Fl.
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor Spanberger, Senator Lucas, and Delegate Torian,

I am writing to provide documentation of Virginia Growth and Opportunity Fund transactions that have occurred during the second quarter of the 2026 fiscal year as required in Item 103 N.6.a of the 2025 Appropriation Act.

As of December 31, 2025, \$276,400,000 in state general funds has been appropriated to the Fund, and of this amount, \$68,222,211 has been recaptured to date by the General Assembly since the program's inception in 2016. As of December 31, 2025, the Cardinal Financial System reflected a cash balance of \$98,575,200.77, which includes \$13,229,815.21 in earned interest. Funds obligated since the inception of the Fund total \$165,248,823.59, which includes \$153,810,694.43 in project awards. Total expenditures from the fund through December 31, 2025, were \$122,832,403.44. The balance available for future commitments is \$42,929,537.44.

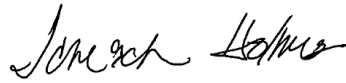
There were 17 projects funded during the second quarter of fiscal year 2026 totaling \$6,369,066. This includes 10 administratively approved projects (\$1,042,855) and 7 projects approved by the GO Virginia State Board (\$5,326,211).



Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development | Partners for Better Communities
Main Street Centre | 600 East Main Street, Suite 300 Richmond, VA 23219
www.dhcd.virginia.gov | Phone (804) 371-7000 | Fax (804) 371-7090 | Virginia Relay 7-1-1

A summary of the newly funded projects is included as an appendix. A second appendix provides awards report detailing all projects funded since the program's inception, along with the current unobligated Per Capita and Competitive Fund balances by region.

Sincerely,



Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D.
Director, DHCD

Cc The Honorable Carrie H. Chenery
 Secretary of Commerce and Trade

Emily O'Quinn
Chair, Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - FY26Q2 GOVA Awarded Project Report

Appendix 2 - FY26Q2 GOVA Unobligated Balances by Region



Appendix 1 - FY26Q2 Awarded Project Report

Region	Project Name	Subgrantee	Type	Strategy	\$ Award	Committed Match	Project Purpose
1	HOMEWorks	Appalachian Highlands Housing Partnership	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$748,425	\$580,400	The applicant proposes establishing a workforce development facility focused on skilled trades training within the modular construction manufacturing sector. The facility will partner with three Southwest Virginia community colleges to create a coordinated pathway for students to earn industry-recognized credentials and gain hands-on experience. This initiative will introduce the NCCER Modular Housing credential—currently unavailable in Southwest Virginia—and will prepare participants for careers in modular housing construction as well as related industries, including utility and data center support.
1	Downtown Business Recovery Initiative	Friends of Southwest Virginia	HBRI	Cluster Scale-Up	\$250,000	\$125,000	The applicant, in partnership with local governments, Planning District Commissions, Virginia Main Street communities, and Commonwealth tourism leaders, will launch the Downtown Business Recovery Initiative. This initiative is an effort to restore and grow the tourism, hospitality, and outdoor recreation economy following the devastating impact of Hurricane Helene. This initiative will be comprised of five activities: 1. Delivering a tourism and hospitality workforce training program for frontline workers focused on customer service, storytelling, and post-disaster business recovery. 2. Providing direct technical assistance and creation of micro-landing pages for at least 75 tourism-facing businesses, particularly for businesses that exist in broadband-limited areas. 3. Procurement and deployment of mobile visitor analytics to track visitation patterns, measure campaign impact, and guide recovery strategies. 4. Launching a refreshed regional marketing campaign and the From Town to Trail brand, supported by new photography, videography, itineraries, and discover tools such as digital passports and collectible card decks. 5. Building a shared digital asset library for use by tourism offices, Main Street programs, and small businesses to strengthen coordinated marketing.
1	Project Laurel Gateway	Washington County	HBRI	Site Development and Infrastructure	\$75,000	\$37,500	To evaluate a 23-acre parcel for the best-case use supporting outdoor recreation and tourism that was devastated following the Hurricane Helene disaster. Project Description: The applicant seeks to complete a site assessment for a 23-acre property located in the Town of Damascus. The site market and feasibility study will consist of the following activities: 1. Environmental assessment 2. Infrastructure assessment 3. Development cost estimates 4. Permitting and zoning compliance 5. Demand assessment (manufacturing, outdoor recreation, lodging, mixed-use) This project will be guided by an advisory committee consisting of Washington County, Washington County IDA, the Wellspring Foundation, Grayson County Tourism, Friends of Southwest Virginia, Mount Rogers PDC, and Virginia Tourism Corporation.
2	VTTI Workforce Pathways for ACE Technology in Region 2	Virginia Tech Transportation Institute	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$99,999	\$57,945	VTTI will develop a strategic plan for growing the workforce in Region 2 for ACE (Automated-Connected-Electrified) technology-based jobs, specifically with electric vehicles and automated vehicles.
2	Vector Space Robotics Facility	Vector Space	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$96,700	\$48,750	Vector Space will engage in validating the need and value of an expanded robotics education facility in Lynchburg. Vector Space will do this through conducting focus groups, exploring aligned credentials available for robotics training, developing a robotics training curriculum, and developing pathways for internships and dual enrollment during a potential future implementation. Vector Space will also be developing implementation plans during the grant period, including developing a draft budget and architectural design plans to accommodate a training facility.
2	SBDC Business Preparedness Program - NRV	Small Business Development Center, Greater Roanoke and New River Valley	HBRI	Startup Ecosystem	\$71,156	\$36,279	The Greater Roanoke and NRV SBDC will conduct training and workshops for small businesses in the New River Valley to prepare them in disaster readiness. These trainings and workshops will focus on continuity planning, disaster readiness, risk management, accessing capital, cybersecurity, and marketing continuity. Additionally, two GrowthWheel peer group cohorts will be facilitated and a small business collective will be formed to strengthen the small business ecosystem.
2	Project RISE	Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center	Regional Per Capita	Startup Ecosystem	\$648,000	\$633,555	Project RISE aims to develop the start-up ecosystem of the Roanoke and New River Valley regions. They will do this by promoting commercialization of new technologies in the region.
3	Danville Aviation Training Facility	City of Danville	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$92,000	\$46,000	Through partnerships with Danville Community College (DCC), Averett University, Danville City Public Schools (DCPS), the City of Danville seeks funding to support the installation of data network infrastructure within a newly constructed Aviation Training Facility at Danville Regional Airport. A vacant parcel located at the Danville Regional Airport will allow the construction of a 13,244 square foot building to support facility requirements for DCC's new Aviation Maintenance Technology program that will be linked to DCPS Aviation Science Pathways program and Averett University's Aeronautics program.
3	Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor Vision 2050	Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor	Statewide Competitive	Cluster Scale-Up	\$250,000	\$125,000	The Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor (BRIC)'s Vision 2050 is meant to serve as a guiding study to inform superregional strategy to promote the economic growth and vitality of the region. The study will contain strategic guidance on 7 topics.
3	Industrial Skills Trades Regional Expansion	Patrick and Henry Community College	Statewide Competitive	Workforce Development	\$1,346,786	\$673,393	Through partnerships with Danville Community College (DCC) and Southside Virginia Community College (SVCC), the proposed expansion program will provide training offerings in industrial skills trades professions to include electrical, carpentry, HVAC, plumbing, and industrial maintenance. Major activities include: 1) Acquisition of industry-standard training equipment; 2) alignment of curricula with national credentialing frameworks; 3) the launch of mobile training units to serve rural and underserved areas; 4) additional instructor support to meet rising enrollment demand; and 5) paid work experiences.
4	Small Business Opportunity Center Expansion	Virginia Commonwealth University	Statewide Competitive	Startup Ecosystem	\$1,225,000	\$613,000	Virginia Commonwealth University will expand services offered by the Small Business Opportunity Center at VCU to GO Virginia Region 5, 6, and 7. To do so, they will partner with universities and entrepreneur support organizations in the Richmond area (Virginia State University and the Metropolitan Business League), the Hampton Roads area (Norfolk State University and Black Brand), the Fredericksburg area (the Virginia Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at the University of Mary Washington and the Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce) and the Northern Virginia area (George Mason's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the Northern Virginia Black Chamber).
5	VersAbility TECH Center	VersAbility Resources	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$100,000	\$135,750	VersAbility Resources requests GO Virginia funding to engage a consultant to design architectural plans for a new workforce center and to develop curriculum for programming there. The region has struggled in recent years to meet employer demand for workers in target industry sectors, and this organization works to engage individuals with disabilities and connect them to employment opportunities. The organization has piloted programming in welding and forklift certifications, and this would look to expand their work in providing skilled trade certifications.
6	Northern Neck Sites Inventory	Westmoreland County	Regional Per Capita	Site Development and Infrastructure	\$100,000	\$50,000	Westmoreland County will partner with Lancaster County, and the Towns of Colonial Beach and Montross to coordinate sites inventory and prioritization to create a pipeline of 20 developable industrial/commercial sites in the Northern Neck.

Appendix 1 - FY26Q2 Awarded Project Report

Region	Project Name	Subgrantee	Type	Strategy	\$ Award	Committed Match	Project Purpose
7	Pivot Academy	George Mason University	Regional Per Capita	Startup Ecosystem	\$50,051	\$26,836	The initiative will develop and pilot a structured support model for transitioning contractors to state, local, and education (SLED) contracting markets, focusing on procurement readiness, industry engagement, and regional coordination. The initiative includes the formation of a convening group to address strengthening the region's small business ecosystem and building access to public sector opportunities beyond the federal landscape. The project will highlight a full-day workshop designed for small business federal contractors ready to diversify and grow by expanding into Virginia's SLED government marketplace.
7	NOVA TechWorks	Marymount University	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$99,993	\$50,185	Marymount's primary focus is on reskilling and upskilling the regional tech workforce to meet the demands of clusters, which are deeply integrated with federal contracting and commercial markets. The specific challenge NOVATechWorks addresses is the disruption of the regional tech workforce due to federal spending cuts, layoffs, and the shift toward skills-based hiring, while preparing workers for roles in Emerging Technologies such as quantum computing, robotics, and alternative energy.
7	Working in Sync with Employers	George Washington University	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$99,956	\$49,810	Through the WISE initiative, George Washington University will strengthen the Life and Health Sciences industry cluster in Northern Virginia by embedding Artificial Intelligence (AI) competencies into training programs. The project responds to a growing demand for professionals who can apply AI methods to biomedical data, digital health, and clinical research—skills increasingly critical to innovation and competitiveness in the life sciences sector.
9	GOTEC Expansion in Region 9	Albemarle County Public Schools	Regional Per Capita	Workforce Development	\$1,016,000	\$767,210	Albemarle County Public Schools will establish the first GO TEC Career Connection Labs in GO Virginia Region 9. This project would add new career connection labs in all of the middle schools in Albemarle County, Greene County, and the City of Charlottesville. Modules included in the project include: IT Coding & Networking, Automation & Robotics, Precision Machining, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, Metrology, BioTechnologies, and Welding. The applicant is partnering with local employers to offer facility tours and deepen students' career exposure.

Appendix 2 - FY26Q2 GOVA Unobligated Balances by Region

Unobligated Balances			
Funding Source	FY25 Per Capita	FY26 Per Capita	Total Balance
Region 1 Per Capita	\$ 86,373.16	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,086,373.16
Region 2 Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 1,091,858.92	\$ 1,091,858.92
Region 3 Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
Region 4 Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 2,349,012.47	\$ 2,349,012.47
Region 5 Per Capita	\$ 2,691,392.63	\$ 3,384,637.00	\$ 6,076,029.63
Region 6 Per Capita	\$ 144,060.51	\$ 1,061,688.00	\$ 1,205,748.51
Region 7 Per Capita	\$ 4,720,933.10	\$ 4,970,139.00	\$ 9,691,072.10
Region 8 Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 1,063,400.50	\$ 1,063,400.50
Region 9 Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 2,409.75	\$ 2,409.75
Helen Business Recovery Initiative	\$ 1,077,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,077,500.00
Competitive Fund	\$ 8,907,283.40	\$ 10,128,849.00	\$ 19,036,132.40
	\$ 17,627,542.80	\$ 25,301,994.64	\$ 42,929,537.44