

December 2015

## CEDS Annual Performance Report

### Mount Rogers Planning District Commission



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## General Discription

The Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (MRPDC), also known as the Mount Rogers Economic Development District, is comprised of the counties of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington, and Wythe and the independent cities of Bristol and Galax. While each jurisdiction in the district retains its individual character, they do share many common features. All of the jurisdictions are similar in that the region is mountainous. The region is divided into two physiographic provinces: the Blue Ridge Province and the Ridge and Valley Province. The jurisdictions share many major transportation routes and are interdependent with regard to labor exchange (i.e. commuting patterns), retail trade, shared problems, and shared opportunities.

### Mount Rogers Planning District



In all, the Planning District totals approximately 2,800 square miles and as of 2014 contains a estimated population of 190,942 (U.S. Census-5 Year Estimates). Population density is approximately 68.9 persons per square mile or 9.28 acres per person. In 1990, density was 64.2 persons per square mile or 9.97 acres per person. Although these figures continue to be relatively stable, they are also slightly misleading. Over 50 percent of all land in the district has slopes in excess of 15 percent. If lands with slope limitations were excluded from the equation, the density would rise above 138.7 persons per square mile. This is still a relatively low density, and it indicates the existence of developable land.

As of 2014 the MRPDC had an estimated total population of 190,942 people.

The MRPDC has a low population density at 68.9 persons per sq. mile.

## DEMOGRAPHIC and ECONOMIC TRENDS

The data tables below show the year-to-year changes for each of the localities that make up the Mount Rogers Planning District. The data used is that which is the most up-to-date that has been published. Regionwide, there has been a decrease in population over the last year, but unemployment rates fell in each locality.

Estimated Population			
Locality	2014	2013	2013-14 Change
Bland	6,625	6,735	(110)
Carroll	29,621	29,883	(262)
Grayson	15,093	15,161	(68)
Smyth	31,555	31,652	(97)
Washington	54,729	54,907	(178)
Wythe	29,121	29,344	(223)
Bristol	17,184	17,341	(157)
Galax	7,014	7,035	(21)
MRPD	190,942	192,058	(1,116)
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 5-year American Community Survey			

Unemployment			
	2014	2013	2013-14 Change
Bland	6.0%	6.7%	-0.7%
Carroll	6.8%	8.2%	-1.4%
Grayson	7.7%	9.6%	-1.9%
Smyth	7.8%	8.9%	-1.1%
Washington	5.7%	6.4%	-0.7%
Wythe	6.4%	7.7%	-1.3%
Bristol	6.4%	7.1%	-0.7%
Galax	7.2%	8.5%	-1.3%
MRPD	6.6%	7.6%	-1.0%
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics			



The MRPD experienced a negative population change of 1,116 from 2013 to 2014.

All of the localities in the MRPD experienced a decrease in population from 2013 to 2014

The unemployment rate for the MRPD in 2014 was 6.6 percent; down 1.0 percent since 2013.

All of the 8 localities in the MRPD experience a decreased unemployment rate from 2013 to 2014.

All Ages in Poverty			
Locality	2013	2012	2012-13 Change
Bland	16.6%	14.2%	2.4%
Carroll	18.1%	18.9%	-0.8%
Grayson	19.1%	18.8%	0.3%
Smyth	18.4%	20.2%	-1.8%
Washington	12.1%	12.4%	-0.3%
Wythe	14.4%	14.0%	0.4%
Bristol	21.0%	22.4%	-1.4%
Galax	25.3%	28.3%	-3.0%
MRPD	16.4%	17.0%	-17.0%
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 5-year American Community Survey			

The average poverty rate for the MRPD in 2013 was 16.4 percent; down 0.6 percent since 2012.

Median Income			
Locality	2013	2012	2012-13 Change
Bland	\$ 42,139	\$ 42,658	\$ (519)
Carroll	\$ 32,853	\$ 33,600	\$ (747)
Grayson	\$ 30,710	\$ 31,931	\$ (1,221)
Smyth	\$ 37,239	\$ 34,394	\$ 2,845
Washington	\$ 41,897	\$ 42,844	\$ (947)
Wythe	\$ 41,275	\$ 40,564	\$ 711
Bristol	\$ 32,221	\$ 30,636	\$ 1,585
Galax	\$ 30,325	\$ 24,059	\$ 6,266
MRPD	\$ 37,333	\$ 36,829	\$ 504
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 5-year American Community Survey			

Median household income increased by an average of \$504 across the MRPD from 2012 to 2013.

Per capita income increased by an average of \$117 across the MRPD from 2012 to 2013.

Per Capita Income			
Locality	2013	2012	2012-13 Change
Bland	\$ 18,501	\$ 18,712	\$ (211)
Carroll	\$ 19,385	\$ 18,888	\$ 497
Grayson	\$ 20,591	\$ 21,639	\$ (1,048)
Smyth	\$ 20,837	\$ 20,169	\$ 668
Washington	\$ 25,109	\$ 24,768	\$ 341
Wythe	\$ 23,219	\$ 24,083	\$ (864)
Bristol	\$ 18,820	\$ 18,999	\$ (179)
Galax	\$ 21,769	\$ 20,039	\$ 1,730
MRPD	\$ 21,938	\$ 21,819	\$ 118
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 5-year American Community Survey			

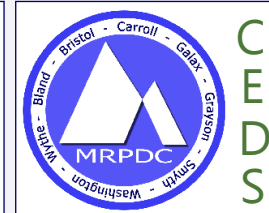


## Changes in Number of Target Industries and Employees

2012-Target Industries	Bland	Carroll	Grayson	Smyth	Washington	Wythe	Bristol	Galax	Total
<b>Total Establishments</b>	81	414	176	528	1156	697	634	307	<b>3993</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	1372	4390	1813	9511	17046	9176	10813	5031	<b>59152</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	8	20	17	40	65	39	22	12	<b>223</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	750	1039	848	3170	3992	1847	1142	739	<b>13527</b>
<b>Healthcare and social assistance</b>	7	60	17	65	148	76	48	46	<b>467</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	60	552	175	2437	2454	1288	630	1614	<b>9210</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	12	90	25	116	206	137	154	63	<b>803</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	59	778	167	1251	3255	1894	1737	1130	<b>10271</b>
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	5	17	5	17	39	27	14	6	<b>130</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	10	161	109	175	879	355	375	60	<b>2124</b>
<b>2011-Target Industries</b>									
<b>Total Establishments</b>	79	399	174	536	1174	685	328	316	<b>3691</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	1192	4374	1183	8997	16814	8898	11960	5125	<b>58543</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	8	16	14	41	66	42	26	15	<b>228</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	514	966	249	3109	3903	1978	1715	1045	<b>13479</b>
<b>Healthcare and social assistance</b>	7	37	15	66	149	77	50	46	<b>447</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	60	651	76	1793	2485	1229	631	1509	<b>8434</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	12	88	26	118	209	142	153	67	<b>815</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	64	803	164	1289	3097	1926	1675	1137	<b>10155</b>
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	4	18	6	20	43	24	13	5	<b>133</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	10	60	142	175	899	332	375	60	<b>2053</b>

	Change from 2011 to 2012	
		% Change
<b>Total Establishments</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Healthcare and social assistance</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>3.5</b>

(Source: 2012 Census 5-Year Estimates)



The MRPD had a 8.2 percent increase in the total number of industry establishments from 2011 to 2012.

Healthcare and social assistance experience the largest increase in the total number of employees, gaining 776.

All target sectors experienced growth in total number of employees.

## Major Company Openings and Closings in the MRPD

### Job openings in the MRPD from 2014 to 2015

- Appalachian Cast Products – Washington County – April 2013 – Manufacturing custom die cast (NAICS-331523) -Expansion – 36 new jobs and 1.1 million dollar investment
- W&B Fabricators, Inc. – Bland County – August 2013 – New – Manufactures mining machinery and equipment (NAICS-332710) – 50 new jobs and 3.1 million dollar investment
- Virginia Produce Company – Carroll County – September 2013 – Expansion – Agricultural produce wholesale (NAICS-424480) – 75 new jobs and 2.54 million dollar investment
- Classic Creations, LLC – Carroll County – October 2013 – New – High-tech screen printing, packaging, warehousing services to the apparel market (NAICS-339920) – 55 new jobs and 1.43 million dollar investment
- Shearer's Food, Inc. – City of Bristol – October 2013 – Expansion – Manufactures snack food (NAICS-311919) – 22 new jobs and 4.75 million dollar investment
- Liaoyang Ningfeng Woodenware Co., Ltd. (New Ridge, LLC) – Smyth County – November 2013 – New – Manufactures furniture components (NAICS-337122) – 125 new jobs and 2.1 million dollar investment
- Appalachian Cast Products – Wythe County – March 2014 – Expansion – Precision machining operations (NAICS-332721) – 16 new jobs and 1.6 million dollar investment
- Core Health & Fitness LLC – Grayson County – July 2014 – New – Manufactures and distributes exercise and fitness equipment (NAICS-339920) – 250 new jobs and 2 million dollar investment
- Vanguard Furniture – Carroll County – July 2014 – New – Household furniture upholstery production (NAICS-337121) – 200 new jobs and 550 thousand dollar investment
- Hansen Turbine Assemblies – Grayson County – August 2014 – Expansion – Manufactures coating spray applications for aircrafts and turbine parts (NAICS-332812) – 25 new jobs and 2.5 million dollar investment
- Mayville Engineering Company, Inc. – Smyth County – August 2014 – Expansion – Metal fabrication, tube forming and coatings (NAICS-331529) – 160 new jobs and 10 million dollar investment
- Independence Lumber, Inc. – Grayson County – August 2014 – Expansion – Manufactures all grades of lumber, including furniture grade and flooring oaks (NAICS-321113) – 25 new jobs and 5.05 million dollar investment
- Andrews Farming Co. – Carroll County – October 2014 – Expansion – Production, warehousing, and distribution of agriculture products (NAICS-111219) – 51 new jobs and 5.61 million dollar investment

### Job closings in the MRPD from 2014 to 2015

- Merillat Industries, Inc. – Smyth County – January 2013 – Closing – Manufactures kitchen cabinet panels (NAICS-337110) – 280 jobs lost
- Med-Fit Systems, Inc. – Grayson County – April 2014 – Reduction – Nautilus brand exercise equipment (NAICS-339920) – 61 jobs lost



## Projects worked on by the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission in 2015

- Geographic Information System staff has worked on developing digital parcels for Bland County. Bland County's parcel information had previously been in paper/hardcopy form. This is a time consuming task and should make Bland County's processing of tax parcels and land owner information a much more efficient task.
- GIS staff has made around 250 maps over the course of 2015. These maps were associated with projects that included grant funding from EDA, ARC, DHCD, VDOT and other government organizations; as well as nearly all of the localities in our district, non-profit organizations, and private citizens that include surveyors, bankers, real estate appraisers and other residents.
- **Damascus Downtown Revitalization Planning Grant** - \$35,000 funded by DHCD and the timetable is from March 2013 to December 2014. The project will establish a Downtown revitalization master plan for the economic growth and restructuring of the town of Damascus. The study includes a market analysis and a physical improvements plan. It will also be the basis of an application to DHCD's CDBG program for funds to implement the physical improvements suggested by the planning process. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life and supporting small business development)
- **Damascus Beaverdam Creek Trail** - \$487,000 funded by VDOT and completion is set for some time in 2015. The project will create a walking trail to connect the Damascus recreational park, public parking lot, and library to the downtown area by allowing free flowing pedestrian access to businesses located along Main Street. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life and supporting small business development)
- **Damascus VTC Marketing Grant** - \$5,000 funded by VTC and completion date is set for the end of 2014. The grant allowed the town of Damascus to launch a marketing campaign to increase visitation and duration of stay for tourist to boost the economy of the town's local retail shops. (Goals supported in the CEDS include asset based development)
- **Marion Streetscape Improvements Phase III** - \$240,000 funded by VDOT and is a continuation of Phase I and II of the same project. The Phase III timetable is set to run from January 2014 through October 2016. This project includes the improvement of 800 LF of sidewalk and lighting to increase pedestrian mobility and ease of commerce along Main Street. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life and supporting small business development)
- **Glade Spring Downtown Revitalization Project** - \$750,000 project funded by DHCD that is expected to be completed by June 2016. The project will improve at least 6 facades in the town's commercial district, renovate a blighted warehouse for use as a year-round Farmers Market and music venue, install new signage throughout the town, and create a \$100,000 micro-loan program for local business as well as 10 LMI jobs. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life, supporting small business





development, and increase number of quality jobs)

- **Salt Trail Extension Project** - \$400,000 funded by DHCD and completion is expected December 2016. The project will design and build the remaining leg of the Salt Trail. It currently ends one mile outside of town. This project will complete the final mile and establish the trail head in the historic Town Square. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life and asset based development)
- **Chestnut Creek School of the Arts** (city of Galax) - \$877,000 funded through ARC, Virginia Tobacco Commission, USDA, city of Galax, and the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts. The project entails the construction of a new woodworking studio to enhance the school. The project will create 12 new jobs, 6 new businesses; give employment to 18 artisan instructors, and skills training to 40 workforce development workers and 40 students. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life, supporting small business development, increase number of quality jobs, and support education efforts)
- **Settlers Museum** (Smyth County) - \$148,622 funded by ARC, Virginia Tobacco Commission, and the U.S. Forest Service. The project involves the stabilization of 11 historic farm structures on the grounds of the Settlers Museum in Atkins, Virginia, giving improved educational opportunities to school groups and adults while increasing visitor traffic to the museum and the ability to retain one full time job. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life, asset based development, increase number of quality jobs, and support education efforts)
- **Project Glade** (Glade Spring) - \$588,704 funded by ARC, Virginia Tobacco Commission, and USDA. This project renovated the Old Bank Building in Glade Spring to create the Town Square Center for the Arts. This was a keystone in the revitalization of the Town Square in Glade Spring creating a minimum of 5 new businesses and 8-10 new jobs. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improvement of quality of life, supporting small business development, and increase number of quality jobs)
- **Mendota Water Supply** (Washington County) - \$456,800 funded by CDGB and the Washington County Service Authority. The Mendota Water Supply project will bring public water to the Mendota Community therefore eliminating the undesirable water source currently in use and providing reliable, clean, good tasting water and improved fire protection to 52 households. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life)
- **Hidden Valley Water Supply** (Washington County) - \$887,975 funded by CDGB and the Washington County Service Authority. This project will bring public water to the Hidden Valley area of Washington County, providing an ample supply of safe drinking water to 27 households and eliminating dependence on private water supplies that are susceptible to contamination and do not provide sufficient water. This will also allow for fire protection capabilities that currently cannot be provided. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life)





- **Chilhowie Planning Grant** - \$40,000 funded by DHCD. The Town has undergone some private development within the Downtown corridor, but assistance is needed to eliminate the last of the blight existing within the proposed area. The Town plans to utilize these Planning Grant funds to initiate an overall Master Plan for the Downtown area, which will include addressing a vacant historic property, and an open parcel of land, both of which are adjacent to the proposed project area. This grant will serve to identify hurdles and opportunities within the specified properties, and will allow the Town to open a dialogue with business owners, area residents, visitors, and local and regional officials currently working towards the common goal of the Economic Restructuring of our small towns. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life and asset based development)
- **Mount Rogers Regional Initiative Planning Grant** - \$40,000 funded by DHCD. The Mount Rogers Regional Initiative is a community development strategy built on the foundation of the Appalachian Spring Initiative, which is an economic development initiative in Southwest VA based on outdoor recreation. The Mount Rogers Regional Initiative will be coordinated with Appalachian Spring staff and will fill in a gap between two similar projects – the New River Initiative and the Clinch River Initiative. This project will not duplicate the Appalachian Spring effort, but will result in the development of a regional brand and marketing plan that has been envisioned through Appalachian Spring planning. The project will also include the creation of an outdoor recreation business development plan, and a physical improvements plan that will focus on critical signage needs. (Goals supported by the CEDS include asset based development, improve quality of life, and increase education opportunities)
- **Building Entrepreneurial Economies** - \$20,000 funded through DHCD. This effort is to develop a network of micro-enterprise organizations across a region with untapped potential for entrepreneurial development related to outdoor recreation and cultural assets. It will be incorporated into local downtown planning projects in the eight partnering towns, as well as Smyth and Grayson county tourism efforts, and the regional comprehensive economic development strategy. Through this project, the eight towns and two counties will leverage the marketing force of key tourism assets across a common region to bring people to downtown businesses. (Goals supported by the CEDS include asset based development, improve quality of life, support small business development, and increase number of quality jobs)
- **Mount Rogers Regional Entrepreneur Challenge** - \$20,000 funded by VTC. The overall goal is job creation and entrepreneurial development related to outdoor recreation and cultural assets. Funding will be used to implement the Mt. Rogers Regional Entrepreneurial Challenge's three main components: an entrepreneurial development framework, micro financing development, and the entrepreneur challenge. The program will produce 30 trained entrepreneurs, and from those, at least 12 are expected to started new businesses. In partnership with a Building Entrepreneurial Economies (BEE) grant, a Micro-enterprise loan network will be created to support entrepreneurs. (Goals supported by the CEDS include asset based development, improve quality of life, support small business development, and increase number of quality jobs)



- **Indoor Plumbing Rehab Project** (Service Area One-Wythe County west to Lee County) – HOME Funds – New Construction or Substantial Rehabilitation of 15 homes. Expected to sustain approximately 35 jobs through the use of local contractors. An estimated direct financial impact of \$1.2 million and an estimated local impact to tax base of \$900,000 gain. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life and job creation)
- **Town of Troutdale Housing Rehab Project** – Funded by CDGB. Construction of 4 new homes and rehabilitation of 8 homes. Expected to sustain approximately 30 jobs through the use of local contractors. The construction is expected to have a direct financial impact of \$688,430 in the contract amount. The estimated local impact to the tax base is expected to be approximately \$720,000 gain. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life and job creation)
- **Crescent-Palmer Housing Rehab Project Phase I** (Marion) – Funded by CDGB. The project will rehab 12 homes and the demolition of 4 dilapidated structures. The project is expected to sustain approximately 30 jobs through the use of local contractors. The project is expected to have a direct impact of \$400,000 in contract amount. The estimated local impact to the tax base is expected to be approximately \$500,000 gain. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life and job creation)
- **Allison Gap Housing Rehab Project** (Saltville) – Funded by CDGB. The project will rehab 4 homes and substantial reconstruction of 8 homes. The project is expected to sustain approximately 35 jobs through the use of local contractors. The project is expected to have a direct financial impact of \$622,000. The estimated local impact to the tax base is expected to be \$600,000. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life and job creation)
- **Wayne Henderson School of Appalachian Music and Arts** – Marion, Virginia. Renovation/ restoration of the 4 story 1908 schoolhouse building in Marion to create the Wayne Henderson School, which will offer structured classes, workshops, and seminars centered on Appalachian culture, arts, crafts, and Music. Total project cost \$1,185,000. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life, job creation, and supporting education opportunities)
- **Marion Gateway Exit 45 Planning Grant** – \$30,000 – Evaluate and plan for the development of the Exit 45 corridor as a gateway entrance into the Town with the removal of blighted influences, infill projects, and traffic flow. Project will also include branding and marketing. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life, job creation, and small business support)
- **Rural Retreat Downtown Planning Grant**- The Town of Rural Retreat received \$35,000 in planning funds to conduct downtown business district revitalization study, comprised of physical improvements plan and a economic restructuring plan. The town intends to submit a competitive CDBG application in March 2015. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life and small business support)

- **Nuckolls Curve Water CDBG Project** – \$259,755 – Project will provide potable reliable water to 22 households in Grayson County just south of the City of Galax. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life)
- **Emory and Henry College School of Health Sciences** – The College School of Health Sciences is located in the former Smyth County Community Hospital located in Marion Va. The project consists of construction renovation of 14,200Sq. ft. of the former hospital, to create 2 classrooms with laboratory facilities. \$500,000 ARC, \$508,000 E&H. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life, job creation, and supporting education opportunities)
- **Wytheville Downtown CDBG project** – Downtown revitalization through the elimination of physical blight, removal of barriers to economic revitalization, promotion of private economic investment, and refinement of the town’s economic base. Activities : 22 façade improvements, new sidewalks, storm drainage, streetscape, way-finding. \$700,000 CDBG Total project - \$2,829,000. (Goals supported in the CEDS include improving quality of life and small business support)
- **Comprehensive Planning** (Wythe County) – Staff has worked with Wythe County’s Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and staff throughout the year assisting in the county’s comprehensive plan update. Project is expected to be completed by February 2015.
- **DHCD Application for a Virginia Joint Enterprise Zone** (City of Galax and Carroll and Grayson counties) – Staff assisted the Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority and the city of Galax and Carroll and Grayson counties through the application process for a Virginia Joint Enterprise zone. Data was collected and the questions were answered for the application. Maps were constructed to show areas of the proposed Enterprise Zones. Still awaiting approval of the application from DHCD. (Goals supported in the CEDS include recruitment of a tier one industry, job creation, and support small business development)

## CEDS Strategy Committee/Stronger Economies Together- 2015



- The Mount Rogers Planning District was chosen to participate in the Stronger Economies Together (SET), Phase V Initiative. The PDC is working with Virginia Tech/Virginia Cooperative Extension, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), USDA-Rural Development to create an regional economic development blueprint for the region.
- October 20, 2015 - A SET Civic Forum was held at the PDC and discussion focused on the following topics: Workforce development and/or tourism/asset based development initiatives; Industrial park development or investment; Small business development/entrepreneurial support or investment; Early childhood/elementary/middle/high school level opportunities-particularly related to STEM; and Healthcare investment or initiatives.

#	Name	Primary Organization	Secondary Organization	Career Field	Locality
1	Brenda Thompson	New Peoples Bank	Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce	Finance	Bland
2	Dr. Hara Charlier	Vice President of Academic and Student Services, VHCC		Education	Briston, Washington and Smyth
3	Angela Y. Lawson, Ed.S.	Vice President, Workforce and Occ/Tech Programs, WCC		Education	Bland, Wythe, Smyth, Carroll, Grayson, and Galax
4	Ed Davis, Ph.D.	Emory & Henry College	Sustainable Development / Conservation	Education	Regional
5	Marty Holliday	New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Area		Workforce	Regional
6	Barry Firebaugh	Leadership Washington County		Leadership / Small Business	Washington
7	Margo Crouse	Doctors Inn	Galax City Council, Galax Planning Commission	Tourism / Small Business	Galax
8	Jim Swartz	Highlands Union Bank	Washington Co. Chamber of Commerce	Finance	Smyth/Washington
9	Mary Begley	AEP	Virginia's aCorridor	Energy	Regional
10	Joe Freeman	Evatran	Wythe Manufacturing Council	Manufacturing	Wythe
11	Keith Andrews	Andrews Farming	Twin County Chamber of Commerce	Agriculture / Small Business	Galax
12	Ken McFadyen	Blue Ridge Crossroads EDA	Wired Road	Economic Development	Carroll-Grayson-Galax
13	Herb Grant	ABB	Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce	Manufacturing	Bland
14	James McNeil	McNeil Furniture	Marion Downtown	Small Business	Smyth
15	Andre Richmond	Comprehensive Services Act of Virginia		Social Services	Bristol
16	Melinda Leland	Wytheville Community College	Vice President Workforce Development		Wytheville
17	Judy Greer	Grayson County Public Schools	Assistant Superintendent	Education	Grayson



# MRPD Local Projects - Top Priority

Project							Project Status				
Locality	Project Name	Description	Project Cost	Funding Sources	Outcomes/Jobs Created or Saved	Time Frame	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	Notes
Regional Projects	Wildwood Development (Exit 19)	Joint project through Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority for utility service and site development	\$6,500,000	DHCD, ARC, EDA, RD, TICRC	Significant job potential	2011	X		X		Project has been initiated
	Blue Ridge Crossroads Technology Park	Design, grading, utility extension, and service road to develop business and technology park	\$3,000,000	RD, TICRC, DHCD	Creation of 500-1,000 new jobs	2012	X		X		Access road from US 58 currently under construction. Funded by TICRC grant
	Twin County Regional Airport HLX	Extend the runway	\$4,261,000			2011	X				Pursue economic development
	The Wired Road	Extend a broadband fiber-optic telecommunications network across the Twin County region	\$10 million		Broadband telecommunications access available across the region	2012	X	X	X		Phase II partial funded. Construction to begin Spring 2011.
Bland County	Bland Wastewater Collection/Treatment System	Construction of a gravity line system with a force main to pump wastewater to the Bastian Treatment Facility	\$9,300,000	USDA, TIC, MRPDC	Allow for the development of Exit 52 and provide wastewater collection to the Bland Community	2014	X	x	x		Phase 1 of the 3 phase project is funded
Bland County	Rocky Gap Greenway	The development and construction of a greenway trail system in the Rocky Gap Community which encompasses the Phoenix Iron Bridge.	\$1,100,000	Wythe-Bland Foundation, DEQ, DCR, VDGI, VDOT		2015	x				
Bland County	Bland County Industrial Park Expansion	The acquisition and development of a 50 acre site for industrial development	\$3,000,000	TIC, MRPDC, VDOT, EDA, Local		2015	x				
Bristol	Retail Expansion at Exit 7	Identify, market and attract new business to vacant commercial property in the vicinity of Exit 7 along I-81	\$500,000	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds	500	2013	X	X	X		Presently working to market property and negotiate packages with new prospective tenants
Bristol	Retail Expansion at Exit 5	Identify, market and attract new business to vacant commercial property in the vicinity of Exit 5 along I-81	\$280 million	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds	2,000	2017	X	X	X		Presently working to market property and negotiate packages with new prospective tenants
Bristol	Downtown Revitalization	Continue to market and attract new business and residential to downtown	up to 1\$million	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds, Tax Credits, Utility Cost Reductions	300	2017	X	X	X		Believe in Bristol is a service entity who markets downtown and has been a key in its revitalization, with many vacant properties remaining a key priority for the City is to assist in the redevelopment of these properties

Carroll County	Fries Road Water	provide water to the Fries Road community	\$2,760,204	USDA-RD, Local, MRPDC, VDH	Provide 180 connections to a sustainable water supply from the New River Regional Water System through Carroll County lines.	2013-2015		x				PER finished and funding has been announced
Carroll County	Natural Gas Expansion	Provide Natural Gas to Business/Industry and County residents	\$7,000,000	USDA-RD, Local, MRPDC, other	To create 300 new jobs and \$15 million in expanded capital	2013-2017	x					
Carroll County	Recreation Park Development	Provide expanded Recreation Opportunities to the citizens of Carroll	\$2,500,000	ARC, Local, MRPDC, other	To expand recreational experiences for citizens	2014-2018	x					Feasibility study funded at \$26,000
Chilhowie	Holiday Drive Water Line Replacement	Replace and install 4" water line due to possible breaks in current line.	\$50,000	SERCAP		2013	x	x	x			Emergency procurement. Bids due 10/08/2013
Damascus	Damascus Downtown Planning Grant	Planning Grant to initiate Downtown Revitalization project	\$35,000	DHCD	Economic impact through better guided development of Downtown	2013	x	x	x			First phase completed
Damascus	Beaverdam Creek Trail	Construction of the Beaverdam Creek Trail	\$393,000	VDOT	Economic impact through improved tourism attractions	2013	x	x	x			All funding secured.
Damascus	Damascus Marketing Grant		\$5,000	VTC	Economic impact through increased visitation in Damascus	2013-2014	x	x				All funding secured
Fries	VDOT Enhancement Project - Park/Depot	Reconstruct the Fries' train depot and improvements to the New River Trailhead	\$1,200,000	VDOT, Local	Rebuilt train depot and improved tourism amenities	2009	x	x	x			Project will bid in fall 2013
Galax	Givens Street Improvements	Comprehensive planning project for the "Bottom" – the area off of Givens and Shaw Streets	Up to \$3,000,000			2012	x	x	x			Potentially becoming three phase project at \$1million per phase
Galax	Safe Routes To Schools	sidewalk and infrasture improvments around elementary and middle schools	\$450,000	VDOT	improved infrastructure	2014	x	x				proeject initiated
Galax	Wastewater Treatment Plant and WTP PER	Engineering Analysis of the wastewater treatment plant and possible cost to rebuild and refurbish	\$6,000,000		improved infrastructure	2018	x					in planning phase
Glade Spring	Glade Spring Comprehensive Downtown Revitalization Project	Revitalize downtown Glade Spring and restructure the town's economy	\$700,000	DHCD,TIC,RD	For phases 1 and 2, it is hoped that businesses will come in, bringing more people into town for shopping, to conduct business, and possibly live	2014		x				\$412,000 CDBG approved
Glade Spring	The Art Vault	Main street adaptive reuse project	632200	TIC, RD, ARC	Artisan Craft Development and Display to create jobs and increase retail sales	2013		x	x			Substantial Construction complete
Glade Spring	Virginia Salt Trail Development	Construction of the Virginia Salt Trail between Saltville and Glade Spring	\$548,000	TIC, VDOT, DHCD	New recreational tourism amenity	2015	x	x				\$320k VDOT grant approved
Grayson County	Nuckolls Curve Water Project	Extend public water 5,900' to serve 40 households		DHCD, SERCAP	Project is critical due to the current conditions of water quality and well proximity to failing septic systems	2013	x					Funding for the PER has been secured and preliminary engineering work has begun.

Grayson County	Stevens Creek Water Project	Extend public water service to residents in the Stevens Creek area	\$3,200,000		Important to the Town of Fries and future development	2012	X				Pre-planning / PER
Grayson County	Fairview Wastewater Project	Extend public water service to residents in the Fairview area	\$12.8 million	RD, ARC, CDBG	Positive environmental impact through the elimination of leaking septic systems	2012	X				Pre-planning / PER
Hillsville	Water Treatment Plant/Water Tank Upgrade	Water plant upgrade, refurbish two water tanks.	\$1,415,652	VDH, ARC, SERCAP, MRPDC	Continuing reliable water service.	2014	X				Partially funded.
Hillsville	GIS Mapping	Mapping and digitizing existing water/sewer lines, meters,manholes.	\$39,800	SERCAP, MRPDC	Efficient water/sewer operations.	2013/14	X	X	X		
Hillsville	Farmers Market	Farmers Market area and stage	\$850,000	Tobacco Commission, DHCD	Economic and commercial development	2014	X				
Independence	Town Park - Farmers MKRT	Devl of corner lot - Rt21 & Rt58 & constr. Of Park & Mrkt facilities	0.5M	ARC,EPA,DEQ,MRPDC	foundation for revitalizing small busn & tourism busineses	2013/2014	X				in the process of purchasing prop. Council has approved 90K
Independence	RobertShaw Bldg. Econ. Devel	devl old 86K sq.ft. bldg for incubator...job creation	1M	MRPDC,EDA,RD, TOIC	60 to 120 new jobs	2013/2014	X				bldg purchased 100K need to remodel
Independence	MainStreet Revitalization	Downtown revitalization, economic restructuring, and removal of slum and blight	3M	DHCD,TIC,ED	50 saved, 60 created	2013/2014	X				should compliment Park project to spur growth
Marion	Wayne Henderson School of Music	Adaptive reuse of 1908 schoolhouse	\$1,338,000	ARC, DHCD IRF	Development of Appalachian music school to tie in with Crooked Road and Heartwood	2014	X	X	X		Working on selective demolition, and plan to rebid construction in Spring 2014.
Marion	Marion Slum & Blight Removal -Downtown Streetscape Main Street from Sheffey to West Main	Streetscape improvements	\$275,000	TEA-21, local	Provide aesthetic improvements to assist with continued economic redevelopment of downtown	2014	X	X			Awaiting VDOT contract
Marion	Comprehensive Water Line Replacement Project	Replacement of previously identified lines to curtail water loss	\$800,000	unknown	Reduction of water loss, ensure continuation of adequate and stable water supply and improving conservation efforts	2012-2013	X				Based upon PER completed by Anderson and Associates, where all lines were studied and recommendations made for replacement
Rural Retreat	Water System Improvements Source Development and Interconnect with Smyth County	Develop Staley Spring and Phillippi Spring No. 2 Construct line to Smyth County	\$2,200,000	RD, VDH	Provide public water to users in Western Wythe County and Eastern Smyth County	2012	X				
Rural Retreat	Sidewalk/Bikeway Improvements	Improve and construct sidewalks and bikeways to improve pedestrian safety	\$500,000	VDOT	Improved pedestrian safety	2011	X	X	X		
Rural Retreat	Downtown Revitalization	Rehab downtown infrastructure	UNK	DHCD, RD	Economic Development	2015	X				

Smyth County	Exit 47 Interchange Modification and Water Sewer Infrastructure Project	A proposed commercial development on the south side of Exit 47 is anticipated to provide retail and commercial job opportunities to the citizens of Smyth County. The major part of the improvements will provide an upgraded safe and convenient access to the development. The project will also provide both water and sanitary sewer service to this unserved area.	\$8,500,000	Smyth County, Town of Marion, Private Developer	Increased tax base and jobs, will allow a much-needed new development to occur next to I-81. The total Development is expected to be \$ 33 million not including the buildings for retail and food services and is projected to supply over 600 jobs determined by the developers impact study.	2013-2014	X	Private Portion			Traffic Impact Analysis Report completed. Public hearing held. FHWA has approved Interchange Modification Request. This project, due to the economy downturn, has been on hold since 2008, but is poised to come to fruition in this latter part of 2013 for ground breaking in early 2014, the infrastructure and highway improvements are critical to the project's success
Smyth County	Smyth County Megasite Industrial Project	This project involves the re-development of the 69 acre rail served former Epoch Composites property which the Industrial Development Authority has recently purchased.	\$2,500,000	Local , Tobacco Commission	This ongoing project has already provided a flat building pad to accommodate an approximate 800,000 square foot new industrial or manufacturing facility capable of supporting 400 jobs and an investment of \$250 million. The next phase of the project will establish a design for the transportation improvements allowing better ingress and egress. A major part of these improvements is expected to be a primary access bridge over the Norfolk-Southern railroad, directly onto the site.	2014	X	PARTIALLY	X		PER Complete on specific site attributes. Funding secured and Phase 1 of the project is completed for the acquisition, engineering, and on-site improvements. Additional funding sources are needed (approximately \$2.5 million) for construction of the bridge. The funding for the transportation analysis and bridge design is secured and in hand.
Smyth County	Seven Mile Ford Water, Sewer, and Public Access Roadways Infrastructure Improvements	Industrial and commercial development in the Seven Mile Ford area is anticipated to provide industrial, manufacturing, retail and commercial job opportunities to the citizens of Smyth County. The proposed project will provide both water and sanitary sewer service to this currently unserved area, as well as provide public access improvements to the area.	\$4,500,000	Local , Tobacco Commission, MRPDC	This project is expected to allow for the creation of an increased tax base and numerous jobs at buildout of the area. Several entities have expressed interest in the Seven Mile Ford area, but when confronted with the lack of public sewer service, and the reduced fire flow capabilities in the water system, these entities have asked the County to provide these upgrades and this funding will allow for these upgrades to occur and be in place for the future interested entities.	2014	X	PARTIALLY			The PER for these systems is in progress with the funding of the MRPDC and Tobacco Commission. It is anticipated that in very early 2014 we will be prepared to move right into the design and construction phases of the project. This funding will allow for the project to become a quick success.

Troutdale	CDBG Housing Project	Rehabilitate homes along the Ripshin Road corridor of the Town, bringing homes up to HUD Housing Quality Standards	650,000	SE/RCAP & DHCD CDBG	Homes would be made more energy efficient, and safer for residents of the Town.	2014	X				Planning Grant Request Submitted
Washington County	Regional Workforce Training Center	Regional training facility to increase skills of adult workforce for new and existing industry	Tobacco Commission	TIC , VA, Local	Centralized, state of the art training facility for the region	UNK	X				Discussions with training partners; SWIFA; VHCC, HEC, Dream It, Do It; \$70,000 Tob Com Grant for Feasibility Study underway. Tob Commission preparing guidelines Spring of 2014 applications.
Washington County	Virginia Highlands Airport Runway Expansion	Extend runway from 4,471 ft to 5,500 ft	\$36 million	FAA, DOAV, Local	Needed for public safety and transportation enhancement of Washington County	2014-2019	X	X			Environmental assess 2010; Land acquisition and design 2013; Federal funding pending
Washington County	Multiphase Regional Sewer for Western Washington County	Sewer collection and treatment options for area from Exit 14 to TN line along I-81; joint BOS / WCSA study 2010/11	Phase 1: \$3.89 million Phase 2: \$16.0 million	Phase 1: Tobacco Commission	Needed to meet commercial and residential growth	Phase 1 Operation 2013	X	X	X		2013: Discharge Permit for new plant applied for; addl capacity with Town of Abingdon in negotion
Wythe County	Access road	provide new access road from Exit 41 to Progress Park.	\$6,000,000	VDOT, Wythe County, TICRC	500-1000 jobs created and investment of \$500,000,000	3--4 yrs		x			partially funded
Wythe County	Accounting system	Consolidated Central Accounting System	\$500,000.00	local	Provides better reporting for all county entities	2014		x			
Wythe County	Barren Springs/Patterson Community Water	water line from Rte 52 to Rte 100	\$ 4,000,000.00	RD, VDH, local	provides public water to over 200 homes			x			under design
Wytheville	Community Blvd., Construction (Phase 2)	The construction of a connector/access road along I-77/81 that will connect Peppers Ferry Road and East Main Street	\$6.5M	VDOT, EDA	This link will provide a much needed link between Peppers' Ferry Road and East Main Street	2014	X				
Wytheville	Pepper's Ferry Road Improvements and New Access Road to Progress Park	The improvement and widening of Peppers Ferry Road from the Town limit to I-77 as well as the portion in the Town's limit of the project by Wythe County to provide a new access road between I-77 and Progress Park	\$7.5M	VDOT, EDA, ARC	These road improvements will provide improved access to Progress Park	2015	X				
Wytheville	Milling and Paving of Main Street	Milling and paving of Main Street from I-81 westwardly to 20th Street for pavement repair from damages from water line installation	\$2.0M	VDOT, Local	This milling ad paving will improve the deteriorated condition of this damaged pavement	2014	X				



# All other MRPD local projects

Project							Project Status				
Locality	Project Name	Description	Project Cost	Funding Sources	Outcomes/Jobs Created or Saved	Time Frame	Planning	Funded	In-Progress	Completed	Notes
Abingdon	French Moore BLVD-Stone Mill RD-Cook ST Extensions Study	Connection of existing roads with extensions to promote better traffic flow at Exits 14 & 17	\$200,000,000	Local, State, Federal, VATIF	Offer emergency entrance/exit to Tech Park/Community College/Higher Ed/Heartwood Campus	2013	X				
Abingdon	Abingdon Urban Paths-Sidewalk	Connection of neighborhoods through the use of low-impact development of unopened rights-of way and sidewalk connectors	\$500,000	Local, State, Federal, VATIF	N/A	2013	X				Awaiting notification from VDOT on Enhancement Funding.
Abingdon	Storm Drainage Improvements for Country Club Estates	Channel improvements and culvert replacement	\$240,000			2011	X				Town is acquiring easements in order to move forward with redesigning the storm drainage in the neighborhood.
Bland County	Bland County Commerce Park	Develop a 22-acre business park in the Bastian community	\$2,000,000	EDA, TICRC, VDOT, Local	Future of County's Economic Development Program	2012	X	X	X	x	Project under construction
Bland County	Bland Commercial Business District Revitalization	Revitalization and streetscape improvements in the Bland Proper community	\$1,500,000		Revitalized business distraction in Bland Proper	2012	X				Planning has been initiated/Project is on hold
Bland County	Exit 58 Water & Sewer Extension	Extend water and sewer across Interstate 77 at Exit 58 to serve commercial businesses	\$2,000,000		Public water and sewer available at the Exit 58 interchange on Interstate 77	2011	X	X	X	X	Site approved by DEQ and VDH
Bland County	Bland County Farmers Market	Construction of a 20 x 60 pavilion for local Farmers Market facility	\$40,000	USDA RD, Wythe Bland Foundation	Revitalize downtown Bland for local economy, local business/Part-time job created through grant funding during market season	2010	X	X	X	X	
Bland County	Wolf Creek/Indian Village Trailhead	Construction of a parking lot (trail head) at the Wolf Creek Indian Village site and trail connection to the Round Mountain trail network.	\$508,505	VDOT, Local	Provide accessible connection between existing trails and local tourism. Opportunity for future growth.	2008-2013	X	X	X		
Bristol	Sugar Hollow Business Complex	Expansion of the existing two site park into a park with 10 potential prospect locations and consiting of over 300 acres.	\$25 million	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds, Tax Credits, Utility Cost Reductions	500	2020	X	X	X		Presently completing construction of complex's first major tenant and reserving second lot for possible expansion if needed
Bristol	Gordon Business Park	Market and attract new businesses to as many as 4, 4 acre tracts remaining in this park	\$3 million	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds, Tax Credits, Utility Cost Reductions	1000	2017	X	X	X		This 16 acre park currently has one tenant on 4 acres, and additional 4 tracts are available or combination thereof to new businesses

Bristol	White Site Industrial	Market and attract new businesses to as many as 2, 5 acre tracts remaining at this industrial location	up to 1\$million	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds, Tax Credits, Utility Cost Reductions	1000	2017	X	X	X		This 10 acre location is surrounded by other industrial development with excellent access to Interstate 81 and is a corner parcel with no tenant
Bristol	Bob Morrison Blvd	Redevelop existing manufacturing location with approximately 10 acres and several structures, previously a hosiery	up to 1\$million	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds, Tax Credits, Utility Cost Reductions	500	2017	X	X	X		This 10 acre location is the former location of Bristol Lingerie and is currently vacant including the main facility and the other accessory structures, this site boasts blvd style frontage
Bristol	Twin Cities Metal	Redevelop existing vacant manufacturing location with approximately 24 acres and several structures	\$500,000	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds, Virginia HUD Brownfields Grant	100	2020	X	X	X		This 24 acres site is bounded by Beaver Creek and is located in close proximity to downtown, current potential projects include a multifield tournament sports complex
Bristol	Gordon Garment Location	Redevelop existing vacant manufacturing location with approximately 4 acres and 1 major facility	\$500,000	Economic Development Incentive Funds, General Funds, Virginia HUD Brownfields Grant	300	2020	X				This 4 acre location is adjacent to the Twin Cities Metal Site, the previous tenant was a clothing manufacturer and the property still maintains a large manufacturing facility
Bristol	Gateway Improvements	Invest in gateway modification to include landscaping and branding at key corridor entrances	\$300,000	CDBG Funds, General fund, VDOT Grants	Beautification	2015	X				The City intends to partner with local colleges to complete a gateway improvement plan for the City's 5 major gateways
Bristol	Corridor Improvement	Invest in Corridor improvements to facilitate revitalization and citizen investment	\$500,000	CDBG Funds, General fund, VDOT Grants	Beautification	2015	X				The City intends to partner with local colleges to complete a corridor improvement plan for the City's 5 major corridors
Carroll County	Pipers Gap Water expansion	To hook up approximately 180 customers	\$3 million estimate	USDA-RD, Locality, MRPDC		2014-2017	x				PER underway
Carroll County	Phase IV School Construction	Upgrades to Carroll County High School to add an Auxulary Gym	\$3 million	USDA-RD, Locality	Due to the increase of 9th grade students to CCHS and the pressure for more recreation for students, the new Gym is needed to support the County goals.	2014-2016	X				

Carroll County	Coon Ridge Water	Provide water services from Airport Road water East across I-77 to US 52	\$3 million	USDA-RD, Local, MRPDC, VDH	Provide approximately 200 connections to a sustainable water supply	2010-2013	X	X	X		In process
Carroll County	Recreation Park Development	Woodlawn School Rehabilitation	\$5 million	DHCD, VHDA, USDA-RD, ARC, Locality, Private investment, MRPDC	Convert the Woodlawn building into a usable facility for the community	2014-2018	x				
Carroll County	Natural Gas	NG Line construction to Mohawk Inc. by the IDA and Operations by the County	\$1.5 million	Mohawk IDA	Retain 154 jobs and \$1 million in Capital investment	2012	X	X	X	x	Completed
Chilhowie	Chilhowie Walking Trail		\$400,000	VDOT		2014	X	X			Awaiting final VDOT review. Project started using Town resources due to delays imposed by VDOT.
Chilhowie	500,000 Gallon Water Tank – In Town		\$1,000,000			2013	X				
Chilhowie	New Sludge Handling Facility at Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant		\$150,000	DEQ		2012-13	X	X	X		
Chilhowie	New Laboratory at Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant		\$300,000	DEQ		2012-13	X	X	X		
Chilhowie	New Fire Department and Rescue Squad Building		\$1,000,000			2015	X				
Chilhowie	Burn Building for Fire Department Training		\$430,000	Fire Programs		2013-14	X	X	X		
Damascus	Damascus Library and Tourism Center	Construction of the Beaverdam Creek Trail Damascus Library and Tourism Center	\$1,100,000	VDOT, Washington County, TIC	Economic impact through improved tourism attractions	2012	X	X	X	X	All funding secured.
Damascus	Biking and Pedestrian Project	Sidewalk upgrades and streetscape improvements	\$43,000	VDOT, MRPDC	Improved transportation around town and connectivity to trail networks	2015	X				
Fries	Fries Carroll Grayson Regional Economic Development Project	Clearance and redevelopment of the former Washington Mills site. Hire Development Consultant, Market site to private developers.	\$1,135,840	DHCD, ARC, Local	Redevelop a former mill site to serve as a prime tourism destination	2011	X	X	X	X	complete
Fries	Downtown Economic Revitalization	Revitalize downtown Fries and restructure the town's economy	\$1,000,000	DHCD, Local	Revitalized economy and the removal of slum and blight	2012	X				Grant Funds Withdrawn
Fries	Fries Redevelopment Project	Fire Hall relocation	\$1,588,000	DHCD, RD	Removal of slum and blight / small business development	2010	X	X	X	X	Building completed
Fries	Water plant improvements	Miscellaneous Repairs	\$75,000	SWVWWCF	Miscellaneous Repairs	2011	X	X	x	X	complete
Fries	Water Improvement Planning	Water plant assessment rate study	\$25,000	VHD		2009	X	X	X	X	complete

Galax	Wildwood Development (Exit 19)	Joint project through Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority for utility service and site development	\$6,500,000	DHCD, ARC, EDA, RD, TICRC	Significant job potential	2012	X			X		Project has been initiated
Galax	The Wired Road	Extend a broadband fiber-optic telecommunications network across the Twin County region	\$10,000,000		Broadband telecommunications access available across the region	2012	X	X	X			Phase I underway, Funding applications out for Phase II
Galax	West Galax Technology Park (Hampton Property)	Design, grading, utility extension, and service road to develop business and technology park	\$3,000,000	RD, TICRC, DHCD	Creation of 500-1,000 new jobs	2012	X					Access road from US 58 currently under construction. Funded by TICRC grant
Galax	Chestnut Creek Flood Control	Flood control along Chestnut Creek	\$1,000,000			2012	X				X	Working with the Army Corps of Engineers
Galax	Chestnut Creek Woodworking Shop	new woodowrking shop tied to CCSA	\$850,000	ARC, USDA, VTIC, Galax	increase tourism and businesses downtown	2013	x					final funding application in review.
Galax	Water System Capacity Improvements	Increase system capacity of storage and pressure	\$250,000	RD, VDH Revolving Loan Fund		2012	X					Loss of Spivey reservoir has reduced our storage capacity that could be corrected with series of valves and use of CCPSA tanks
Galax	Fries Water Line Upgrade	Upgrade of water line to serve Fries Road customers, with possible connection by Carroll County and Grayson County	\$600,000	Federal stimulus funding, VDH Revolving Loan	Safe potable water for public health, encourage new development	2012	X					Many wells in area outside of city are heavily concentrated with iron.
Galax	City View Water Pressure	Improve fire flow capacity in older pressure system	\$1,500,000	VDH Revolving Loan Fund, RD	Protection of real property and tax base, improved public safety, retain 200 jobs	2012	X					3 schools are served by this system, which generally has lower pressure and undersized lines to provide adequate fire suppression in large fires
Galax	Sewer System Improvements - CMOM program	Identify and correct high probability areas that are subject to overflows during storm events and undersized for current or future capacity	3000000	DEQ Revolving Loan Fund, RD	Environmental compliance	2012	X	X	X			City is trying to comply with a DEQ consent order issued in 2000.
Galax	Crossroads Expansion	Purchase of adjoining property for Crossroads, installation of equipment, broadband connection	\$700,000	VTIC, USDA, ARRA Funds	Unknown, but would allow distance learning, crossroads expansion, etc.	2010	X	X	X	X		Completed in 2011
Glade Spring	Train Depot Demolition	demolish blighted structure to allow additional parking on Town Square	\$300,000	TIC, RD	Economic Stimulus for Central Business District	2014	X					Pending PAR
Grayson County	Grayson County Industrial Park	Infrastructure needed	\$1,000,000	RD	multiple jobs	2012	X					This infrastructure is a must to enable promotion of industrial sites
Grayson County	School Construction/Renovati on Plan	Replace/Remodel all Grayson County schools	\$53 million			2013	X	X	X			Phases II and III are in progress.

Grayson County	Community Fitness Facility	Renovate / Construct Community Fitness Facility	\$2.5 million	TCRH	Important to the health and quality of life to the community	2014	X					Business Plan Development
Grayson County	Grayson County Fairgrounds	County Fairgrounds	\$1,835,000			2012	X					This would be a first for Grayson
Grayson County	School Construction/Renovation Plan – Phase I	Replace/Remodel all Grayson County schools	\$53,000,000			2011	X	X	X	X		Complete.
Grayson County	VA/NC Regional Water System	Construct a regional water treatment plant and distribution system to serve Independence; Grayson County; Sparta, NC; and Allegheny County, NC	\$8,200,000	RD, TICRC	The project will support a new \$99 million, 1,200 inmate prison facility as well as future economic development in the area	2010	X	X	X	X		Complete.
Hillsville	Wastewater Plant UV System Upgrade	Improve the UV system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.	\$149,000	DEQ	Increased efficiency.	2013/14	X					
Hillsville	Emergency Power Generation	Upgrade the emergency power generation at the Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$100,000	unknown	Continued reliable sewerage treatment.	2014	X					
Hillsville	Maintenance Facility	Construct new maintenance facility utilizing old sewer lagoon property.	\$100,000	unknown		2014	X					
Hillsville	Housing Rehabilitation	Adaptive reuse of old hotel downtown and other properties.	\$500,000	CDBG, Local, Other	Economic development and safety, eliminate blight	2015	X					
Hillsville	Relocate overhead power lines	Move overhead utility lines from Main St. to Pine St.	\$250,000	CDBG, Local, Other	Downtown blight and blight removal	2016	X					
Hillsville	Water and sewer extension Hwy. 58 East	Extend water and sewer to new bypass intersection	\$1,500,000	unknown	Economic and commercial development	2015	X					
Hillsville	Raintree Road Sewer	Extend sewer service to the Raintree Rd./Cumberland Dr. area	\$500,000	unknown	Alleviate filling septic systems	2017	X					
Independence	Water Delivery System Repair/Refurbish, VDH request project closed out, ask the Town make new application, project name: Water System Replacement Phase 1B	Repair/Replacement Anvil Rock Water Storage Tank, Replace 6300 ft/8", 3100 ft/6", 800 ft/2" waterline, 11 gate valves, 5 fire hydrant assemblies, 558 new radio read meters, 18 fire line meters	\$1.11M	VDH, MRPDC, USDA RD	Repairs needed to maintain existing service for 575 occupied housing units, two schools, one convalescence home, one shopping center, and numerous churches and businesses	2011/2013	X	X	X			VDH application submitted 4/1/2011, VDH funded, Engineering & Bond Counsel procured, project in progress
Independence	VA/NC Water Authority	Construct a regional water treatment plant and distribution system to serve Independence; Grayson County; Sparta, NC; and Allegheny County, NC	\$8.9M	RD, TICRC, VDH, MRPDC	The project will continue to serve existing 558 customers and new Prison equal to 900 residential units while creating 350 jobs as well as future economic development in the area	2010 - 2011	X	X	X	X		Waterlines, two water tanks, 3 pump stations, and water intake are complete. Water treatment plant substantially complete, problems with water intake under capacity



Independence	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	Upgrade and improve the town's wastewater treatment plant	\$2.2M	MRPDC, RD	The project will support a new \$99 million prison facility, with 350 jobs created as well as future economic development in the area	2010 - 2011	X	X	X		Project construction approximately 40% complete
Independence	Robert Shaw Building/economic development	Clean up and improve 85000 sq. ft. industrial property for possible business incubator or other job development	\$1M	TIC, TOI, MRPDC, DHCD	Provide a means for new business development and creation of 60 to 100 new jobs	2011 - 2013	X				TOI purchase property 4/8/2011
Independence	Main Street Revitalization	Downtown revitalization, economic restructuring, and removal of slum and blight	\$2.8M	DHCD, TICRC, RD, TOI	Downtown revitalization, economic restructuring, and removal of slum and blight; creation of 50 to 100 new jobs	2011 - 2014	X				
Independence	New Town Hall	Existing building is too small, handicap inaccessible, and in need of major refurbishing	\$350K	TOI	A new building will support easier customer access, parking availability, ability to conduct DMV and other over the counter business	2012 - 2013	X	X	X	X	TOI is buying a building
Independence	New Sidewalks	Build sidewalks in commercial districts where sidewalks don't exist making retail businesses more accessible to residential districts	\$75K	RD	19 small businesses indicated they could possibly increase profits hoping to save 99 jobs	2012 - 2013	X				TOI is making application to RD
Independence	Water Delivery System to Prison	Upgrade bottlenecks from Water Authority delivery point south of Independence to the Prison on the east side	\$417K	Town of Independence	The project will support a new \$99 million, 1,200 inmate prison facility as well as future economic development in the area	2010	X	X	X	X	Contractor start date May 2010, VDOT would not except completed work, Project is in mediation should be complete 8/1/2011
Marion	Holston Harwood Adaptive Reuse Project	adaptive reuse of 1913 textile factory	\$2,000,000	IRF, ARC, TIF, tax credits, local	Redevelopment of vacant 20,000 sqft historic brick building into an economic and tourism engine for downtown	2015	X				Feasibility and PAR/PER completed. Grant applications being submitted.
Rural Retreat	Wastewater Collection Improvements	Improve wastewater collection system	UNK	RD	Reduce I & I	2014	X				
Rural Retreat	Rural Retreat Train Depot	Rural Retreat Train Depot Restoration	UNK	VDOT	Preserve the station to promote tourism	2014	X				

Smyth County	Atkins Water Source	Development of a new drinking water source for the eastern end of Smyth County to serve both residential customers as well as provide water to a high volume industrial development. The project would also include construction of a new 500,000 gallon water tank	\$1,800,000	None Secured	Additional water capacity for the system to support growth in the eastern corridor of I-81 and Highway 11 (residential, commercial, and industrial)	2014	X					A spring source is in the final stages of being secured, with the required analysis for quantity and quality to immediately follow. A membrane filtration plant will be required due to the nature of the source.
Smyth County	Hutton Branch Phase II Water Project	Public water extension in the Atkins area to interconnect two sources and their respective systems will provide additional water capacity to help with growth, in addition to redundancy for a high volume industrial project	\$3,000,000	VDH, none	Provide quality drinking water mostly for residences, but business growth is anticipated with increased service area. 150 new connections projected. Project also provides interconnection of two systems to allow for additional water capacities along the Highway 11 corridor for industrial and commercial growth.	2014-2015	X					The VDH funded the design of the interconnection and distribution mains, its Final design is complete and waiting for construction funding. The County has applied for funding from multiple sources, but has not been successful to date for the construction portion.
Smyth County	Smyth County, Wythe County, Town of Rural Retreat water interconnection and source development	Development of a new drinking water source in the Rural Retreat area jointly with the other 2 localities. This source is approximately 600,000 gallons per day and the interconnection involves about 12,000 linear feet of pipelines	\$2,200,000	MRPDC, none	Additional water capacity for all 3 localities. This interconnection will support growth in the eastern corridor of I-81 and Highway 11 (residential, commercial, and industrial) and secondarily can provide the ability to move water between the New River in Wythe County and Highway 16 in Smyth County in emergency situations.	2013-2014	X					PER Completed through local funding and MRPDC funds, localities having ongoing meetings to structure ownership and operations parameters and to agree on design and construction funding pursuit.
Troudale	Public Water Expansion Project	Expand Troutdale's public water capacity to serve the Grayson County's new Grayson Highlands school, and 58 potential residential Grayson County households.	165,700	SE/RCAP & SWVWWCF	Expanded water capacity would ensure that Troutdale does not produce over their permitted capacity, per VDH regulations, resulting in any potential system failure or unreliable drinking source.	2013	X					On Hold, Currently bidding out a structural exam and patch for the Mr. Casual's well, which is the largest producing well in the Town.
Troudale	Business Revitalization Project	Rehabilitate/ Convert several vacant buildings into usable office space, recruit tenants for spaces as project develops.	500,000	CDBG, ARC, Tobacco Commission	Attract businesses within Town limits, offer services to area residents currently offered at a considerable distance away from Town	2014	X					Planning Grant Request Submitted
Troudale	Town Hall Renovations	Rehabilitate old church adjacent to Town owned land. Building will be used to house Town Hall and for Town related business.	\$150,000	???	Building will allow a more formal meeting area for the Town Council, and for economic development presentations for the Town.	2014	X					Current Town Hall suffers from Mold and water infiltration issues.

Washington County	Exits 13 and 14 Sewer Project (Phases I, II, III, and IV)	Sewer service to general area of Lee Highway and Jonesboro Road between Exits 13 and 14	Phase I: \$4.09M Phase II: \$3.64M Phase III: \$1.87M Phase IV: \$1.5M	Southern Rivers, USDA RD grant and loan, TIC, Local	Needed to support and maintain important commercial, industrial, and residential growth	Phase 1 Operational 2012	X	X	X		Phase 1 went online April 2013. Phase 2 has been divided into 5 (A-E) phases and Phase 2A is in the design and funding stage. Phase 3 is in the user agreement solicitation phase.
Washington County	Mendota Water System Improvements Project	Improve the water supply by discontinuing the existing well which has poor water quality and quantity.	\$400,000	DHCD	Improve the water supply by discontinuing the existing well which has poor water quality and quantity.	2011-2012	X				Project is substantially complete and we expect it to be online by October 2013.
Washington County	Access to Public Water in Remote Areas	Extension of public water to unserved areas of Washington County	Variable	seeking funding sources	Provide families in Washington County with access to clean water. Many are still on well water	Ongoing	X				Planning grant, income surveys, and construction of water lines. Some residents may be on Public Health notice concerning private supplies.
Washington County	Regional Recreational Sports Multi-plex	development of outdoor sports fields including soccer, softball, baseball	UNK	Seeking funding sources	Provide outdoor sport fields for softball, baseball, soccer, and football; regional competitions	UNK	X				Preliminary regional discussions
Washington County	King College School of Medicine	Medical school for underserved region of Southwest Virginia to be located in Abingdon	\$100 million	TC, VDOT, RD, NMTC, Local, seeking other source	Advantage to medically underserved region; Creation of medical teaching positions; bio-tech research; tourism; related	2011-2014	X				\$25 million TC grant requires match; local funds of \$7.5 each from WC and Town; site location Abingdon; private fundraising underway.
Washington County	BWCIP Expansion	Expansion of Bristol-Washington County Industrial Park / Potential for a Regional, rail-served, Mega Site	Tobacco Commission	TC, VDOT, Local, seeking other source	\$35,000 grant for preliminary engineering study; 2012 Mega Site application round Oct 2012.	UNK	X				Feasibility study funded by TC in 2011; discussions pending
Washington County	Washington County Main Library - New	Construction of a new mail branch library for Washington County in or around Abingdon	UNK	seeking grant sources	Current main branch in Abingdon has been outgrown	2013	X				Site selection under discussion
Washington County	Damascus/Johnson County, TN Bike Trail Link	Connect the Virginia Creeper Trail to a trail system in Johnson County, TN/Mountain City, TN; first link Damascus to Camp Ahistidy	UNK	Seeking funding sources	Enhance tourism, recreation, and economic opportunity for the Town of Damascus	UNK	X				Meetings with Johnson County and TN state officials; meetings underway to discuss feasibility of connection between VA Creeper Trail and Mt. City, TN

Washington County	12 MGD Water Treatment Expansion	Involves expansion of the Middle Fork of the Holston River Drinking Water Plant from 4.6 MGD to 12.0 MGD and includes a new raw water intake.	28.7 million	USDA Rural Development	The additional capacity is to address County needs for the next 40 years.	Mar-14		X	X		Plant design and construction provides for an energy recovery system that will generate some of the electricity needed to operate the plant and an additional 2.0 MGD expansion with little expense.
Washington County	Galvanized Water Line Replacement	Involves replacement of 200 miles of pipeline that underserves (pressure, fire flow and water quality) 8,000 connections or approximately 19,200 County residents.	30.0 million	USDA Rural Development	Improved water quantity, quality and flow to meet existing and future needs.	Jul-05	X	X	X	X	Project is divided into 3 phases. Phase 1 is complete. Phase 2 is to be advertised for construction bids in 2013. Phase 3 is to advertise for construction bids in 2014
Wythe County	Regional Water Interconnects	Provide redundant water sources	\$5,000,000.00	RD, DHCD, ARC	provide water reliability and capacity	2013	X				connection to Smyth PER complete, connection to Pulaski, PER complete
Wythe County	Business Incubator	Construction/renovation of a small business incubator as part of Phase II of the Southwest Regional Enterprise Center's regional plan to develop incubator facilities in Galax and Wytheville	\$250,000.00	RD, TICRC, ARC	Encourage entrepreneurship and small business development in Wythe County	2014	X				
Wythe County	Speedwell - Wytheville Interconnect	Construction of water line to provide water from NRRWA and provide required source supply	\$8,000,000.00	RD	provides adequate and reliable source and provides availability to over 200 homes	2014	X	X	X		
Wythe County	Lots Gap Tank		\$2,500,000.00	RD, TICRC, ARC	Town of Wytheville & County	2014	X				
Wythe County	Exit 24 Wastewater Improvements		\$ 1,000,000.00								Peed & Bortz selected to do PER
Wythe County	Joint Smyth Wythe Industrial Park Site		\$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000	RD, TICRC, ARC			X				
Wythe County	Grading of Industrial Development Lots in PP		\$20,000,000.00	RD, ARC, EDA, CDBG, TICRC							
Wythe County	County Wide Wireless		\$800,000.00	TICRC		2013	X				
Wythe County	Upgrade Entrance to Progress Park		\$9,000,000.00	VDOT, TICRC		2013	X				
Wythe County	Route 94 Water Upgrades & Replace Existing Lines		\$614,250.00	RD		2012	X				
Wythe County	Foster Falls Water Extension		\$574,460.00	RD		2012	X				
Wythe County	Airport Improvements		\$6,000,000.00			2010	X				
Wythe County	Ft. Chiswell Sewer Plant 2 MGD		\$2,000,000.00	RD		2013	X				

Wythe County	Progress Park Sewer Laterals & FM Extensions		\$2,000,000.00			2011	X					
Wythe County	Ft. Chiswell Ext S Along Route 94 - Sewer		\$1,000,000.00			2012	X					
Wythe County	Ivanhoe Sewer Project		\$10,000,000.00			2012	X					
Wythe County	Piney Extension		\$3,738,150.00			2013	X					
Wythe County	Spiller Annex		\$450,000.00			2014	X					
Wythe County	Poplar Camp/Foster Falls Sewer System		\$3,454,650.00									
Wythe County	Recreation Complexes		\$3,500,000.00	RD								
Wythe County	Ager Park Upgrades		\$140,000.00									
Wythe County	Progress Park Connector Road	Construct a connector road between Progress Park and Interstate 81	\$10,000,000.00	VDOT, TICRC	Key to the long-term success of Progress Park and for regional economic development							
Wythe County	Progress Park Recycled Water Line	Construct a line for recycled water from the WWTP to Progress Park	\$3,000,000.00		Key to the long-term success of Progress Park and for regional economic development							
Wytheville	East Main Street Improvements	This project involves the curbing and guttering, sidewalks; landscaping and white-way lighting for East Main Street from Cassell Road eastwardly to I-81	\$1.9M	VDOT, Local	These improvements will improve the pedestrian access between the hotels at Exit 73 towards town as well as improve drainage and improve aesthetics for this entrance to Town	2015	X					
Wytheville	Alignment and Signilization of East Main Street, Wither's Lane and WCC Access Road	The realignment a and signalization of this intersection	\$1.0M	VDOT, Local	This project will improve safety at this intersection. There are large volumes of traffic traversing this intersection and re-alignment and signalizing would improve safety and traffic flow	2015	X					
Wytheville	Alignment and Signilization East Main Street and Lithia Drive	The realignment of Lithia, Malin Drive and East Main Street to improve traffic flow	\$1.50	VDOT, Local	This intersection has large volumes of traffic entering and exiting the Interstate. These improvements will improve safety and traffic flow in this area	2015	X					



## MOUNT ROGERS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

WILLIE GREENE, Chairman  
GUY ODUM, Vice-Chairman

STEVE WINESETT, Treasurer  
AARON SIZEMORE, Executive Director

1021 Terrace Drive    Marion, Virginia 24354    Phone 276-783-5103    Fax 276-783-6949

### **Request for Public Comments for the Mount Rogers Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) - Annual Performance Report**

The Mount Rogers Planning District Commission has completed a draft of the Annual Performance Report to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Mount Rogers Economic Development District. The CEDS is used as a guide for economic development decisions in the Mount Rogers region (counties of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth Washington and Wythe and the cities of Bristol and Galax). The document contains a profile of the region's economy, including strengths and weaknesses, as well as goals and strategies. There is also a listing of vital economic development projects and performance measures to gauge the effectiveness of the CEDS.

A thirty (30) day public comment review period is required prior to adoption and submittal of the updated CEDS to the United States Department of Economic Development Administration (EDA).

**PUBLICATION:** The draft of the 2015 Annual Performance Report and the 2013-2018 CEDS report are available for review on the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission website at [www.mrpdc.org/ceds.htm](http://www.mrpdc.org/ceds.htm). Copies are also available upon request from the address listed at the end of this notice.

**DATE AND TIME:** The public comment period for the CEDS is Tuesday, December 1, 2015 through Thursday, December 31, 2015.

**COMMENTS:** Comments should be received no later than Thursday, December 31, 2015 by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. All comments may be submitted either by email at [rwarren@mrpd.org](mailto:rwarren@mrpd.org), via fax at 276-783-6949, or by mail to Rocky Warren, Regional Planner, Mount Rogers Planning District Commission, 1021 Terrace Drive, Marion, VA 24354.

## Public Comments