

GO Virginia Region 6 Project Fact Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of GO Virginia is to “create **more higher paying jobs** through incentivized **collaboration**, primarily through **out-of-state revenue**, which diversifies and strengthens the economy in every region.”

Allowable Projects

GO Virginia DOES fund:	GO Virginia DOES NOT fund:
Cluster Scale-Up Commercialization Site & Infrastructure Development Workforce & Credentialing	Healthcare or quality of life projects Incentives to private companies Scholarships Transportation projects (unless associated with site development) Implementation of broadband (on hold pending statewide strategy)

Key Project Requirements

More Higher Paying Jobs

Projects must create “high-paying jobs”, defined as above the average wage of the GO Virginia Region and/or project service area. The following chart shows average wage for Region 6 as a whole and for each planning district.

	Hourly	Weekly	Annually
Region 6	\$19.90	\$796	\$41,392
George Washington Region	\$20.68	\$827	\$43,004
Northern Neck	\$17.78	\$711	\$36,972
Middle Peninsula	\$17.23	\$689	\$35,828

Collaboration

Projects must have at least two participating localities, political subdivisions, or public bodies corporate and politic. “Participation” can include financial participation, in-kind contribution, participation on a project advisory team, and/or administration of the project.

Out-of-State Revenue

Projects must align with at least one of the six priority clusters identified in the Region 6 Economic Growth & Diversification Plan; these clusters primarily generate revenue from outside the region/state:

- Seafood Processing/Aquaculture/Commercial Fishing
- Forestry/Wood Products/Paper
- Manufacturing
- Logistics/Distribution
- Professional/Technical/Scientific Services
- Information/Data Centers

Other Project Requirements

- 1:1 match, of which 20% or \$50,000 (whichever is greater) must be from local governments
- Completion within 2 years
- Sustainability

Region 6 Approved Projects

PamunkeyNet Business Plan: The Middle Peninsula Alliance will receive \$50,000 in GO Virginia funds to create a new business enterprise owned by the Pamunkey Indian Tribe to deliver high-speed broadband to underserved areas of Region 6. The total project budget will be \$133,000, with several localities, political subdivisions, and nonprofit partners contributing a total of \$50,000 in local, cash match and \$33,000 in local and private in-kind resources to the project. This project ultimately aims to provide appropriate broadband capability to retain existing and attract new businesses in the Professional/Technical/Scientific Services, Information/Data Centers, and Manufacturing clusters.

Flexible Office Space Due Diligence: Westmoreland County will receive \$50,000 in GO Virginia funds to complete due diligence for a new 20,000 square foot flexible, multi-tenant office building in Montross, Virginia. The total project budget will be \$100,000, with Westmoreland County and the Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Region Partnership each contributing \$25,000 in local, cash match to the project. This project ultimately aims to provide appropriate office space to attract new businesses in the Professional/Technical/Scientific Services cluster, the highest-wage priority cluster in Region 6.

Virginia Sea Grant Resiliency Planning Grant: Virginia Sea Grant will receive \$49,996 in GO Virginia funds to complete planning activities related to shoreline resiliency and water management. The total project budget will be \$99,992, with Virginia Sea Grant, Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, and Middle Peninsula Alliance contributing a total of \$49,996 in match. The goal of the project is to lay the foundation to build a new industry cluster in Virginia, a water management economy that integrates workforce development, research and development, innovation, and commercialization.

Welding Training Program: Westmoreland County will receive \$130,000 in GO Virginia funds to equip a welding training facility with 15 workstations and train 40 welders for employment at local businesses within Region 6. The total project budget will be \$285,500, with Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board, Inc., Carry-On Trailer Corporation, Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Region Partnership, and Westmoreland County contributing a total of \$130,500 in cash and in-kind match to the project and Rappahannock Community College (RCC) contributing \$25,000 in additional leverage.

How to Apply

For more information on how to apply for GO Virginia funding, visit <https://www.gwregion.org/our-work/gova/> or contact Region 6 staff:

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Proposal Summary - Draft
GWRC Regional Economic Development Planning
August 20, 2018

Background

GO Virginia was created in 2016 as a "bipartisan, business-led economic development initiative," to create more high-paying jobs in the Commonwealth through incentivized collaboration between business, education, and government. The program strives to enhance job expansion by investing at the regional level in specific economic development projects and growing regional economic development capacity. The program is overseen by a statewide Growth and Opportunity Board, and a series of regional councils. GWRC provides staff support for GO Virginia Region 6, which encompasses the areas served by GWRC and the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula Planning District Commissions.

In addition, local elected and appointed officials in the GWRC region have indicated their interest in creating a regional economic development plan, with a focus on creating high paying jobs in the area.

Proposal

We propose to meet these requests and leverage available GO Virginia funding with the following plan:

1. **Draw together all existing economic development strategic plans in the GWRC region.** The region does not have a single regional economic development plan. However, each jurisdiction has approved a local economic development plan. This portion of the effort would collect those existing plans and look for regional commonalities and themes.
2. **Develop a regional economic development plan.** GWRC and the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance (FRA) would draw together a steering committee to begin the work of focusing our region's efforts around creating high-paying jobs in the region, to meet a jobs impact target set by the governing boards of the two organizations. The steering committee would include staff representatives from GWRC, FRA, Redco, FAMPO, University of Mary Washington, Germanna Community College, FAAR, the Fredericksburg Association of Builders, The Chamber of Commerce, United Way, the Community Foundation, Social Services, Goodwill and, if possible, K-12 public education. The GO Virginia Region 6 Growth and Diversification Plan would be a starting point for this effort.
3. **Offer a series of regional meetings with updates, input opportunities, and keynote speakers.** To facilitate the support and input of elected officials and other key regional stakeholders and leaders and build a community-wide common vision of the future, GWRC would host a series of quarterly sessions. These sessions would highlight a keynote speaker, or a panel, who would focus on the potential future of the region, including trends and possibilities. We would also use this as an opportunity to share the progress of the steering committee and our overall direction, as well as an opportunity for comment. We would work with the organizations represented on the steering committee, and others, to ensure broad participation.

It is our hope that these elements, combined would 1) better focus the region's economic development efforts, 2) draw together a variety of elements and organizations to have a larger and more sustained impact, 3) increase the use of available GO Virginia funds for successful and innovative projects, and 4) prepare the community for an even more positive future.