



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Hollie S. Cammarasana, DHCD
Office: (804) 371-7006
Cell: (804) 519-3540
Internet: www.dhcd.virginia.gov

Governor's Urban Policy Task Force to hold public input sessions
Input sessions open to the public to be held in Norfolk, Richmond, Arlington, and Roanoke

Richmond, VA – Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced in July the establishment of the Urban Policy Task Force, a Cabinet-level task force formed to review economic, social and fiscal conditions in Virginia's urban areas. The first meeting of the task force was held Thursday, Oct. 19 from 2 – 4 p.m. at the office of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership in downtown Richmond.

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), the agency responsible for coordinating the processes of the Task Force, will be conducting public input sessions throughout the state next week.

The sessions, free and open to all members of the public, are meant to obtain feedback from citizens on urban needs and issues, and to collect recommendations to report back to members of the Task Force. Session dates and locations are as follows:

- **Norfolk**
Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2 – 4 p.m.
Marriot Norfolk Waterside
235 East Main Street
- **Arlington**
Thursday, Oct. 26, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Sheraton Crystal City Hotel
1800 Jefferson Davis Highway
- **Richmond**
Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2 – 4 p.m.
Radisson Hotel Historic Richmond
301 West Franklin Street
- **Roanoke**
Friday, Oct. 27, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Total Action Against Poverty
145 Campbell Avenue, S.W.

The Code of Virginia requires the creation of the task force on urban policy during each Governor's administration. This is the first administration under which this requirement applies.

The establishment of an urban policy task force is intended to address the challenges of urbanization in a diverse range of policy areas, including but not limited to economic development, education, transportation, public safety, and human services. The task force is charged with developing benchmarks to track the effectiveness of state programs serving residents of urban areas, and recommend approaches that encourage collaboration among localities within Virginia's metropolitan regions.

Registration is not necessary to participate in the input sessions. For questions regarding the urban policy or input sessions, contact Shea Hollifield at (804) 371-7031 or e-mail: shea.hollifield@dhcd.virginia.gov. E-mailed comments are accepted before Oct. 27.

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