

GO Virginia Regional Council 4 Annual Report

July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025

I. Introduction

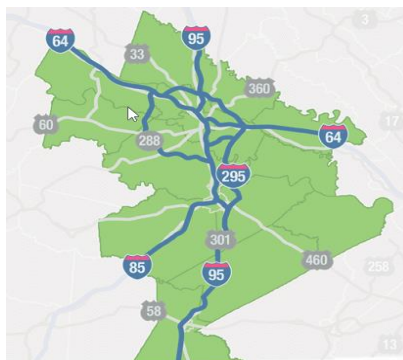
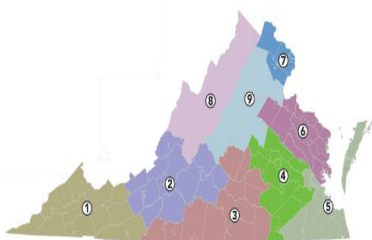
GO Virginia Region 4 GROW Capital Jobs Foundation

Driving Economic Transformation in Central Virginia

Our Mission & Impact

The GO Virginia GROW Capital Jobs Foundation serves as the catalyst for Region 4's economic transformation, operating within Virginia's business-led statewide economic development initiative. Our focus is clear: create high-paying private sector jobs while fostering unprecedented regional collaboration among business leaders, educational institutions, and local governments.

Region 4 encompasses two diverse planning districts—the Crater Planning District Commission and Plan RVA (Richmond Region Planning District Commission)—representing a dynamic economic landscape primed for growth. Through strategic investments and targeted initiatives, we're building and supporting tomorrow's economy today.



REGION 4: includes the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Greensville, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, Powhatan, Prince George, Surry, and Sussex; and the cities of Colonial Heights, Emporia, Hopewell, Petersburg, Richmond and the town of Ashland

Strategic Focus Areas: Our targeted approach centers on the following key sectors that drive sustainable economic growth:

- **Workforce Excellence & Talent Attraction and Retention**
We're not just filling jobs—we're creating career pathways that attract and retain top talent, ensuring our region becomes the destination of choice for skilled professionals.
- **Innovation & Information Technology Leadership**
By strengthening our IT ecosystem, we're positioning Region 4 as a hub for technological innovation and digital transformation.
- **Strategic Site Readiness and Development**
Through proactive site readiness initiatives, we're eliminating barriers and creating tiered-up and shovel-ready opportunities for business expansion and relocation.
- **Transformative Industry Clusters**
We're championing emerging and established sectors—Bioscience, Advanced Manufacturing, and Logistics—that have the power to reshape our economic landscape.
- **Entrepreneurial Initiatives**
Supporting and strengthening our entrepreneurial infrastructure to create new businesses.

II. Growth and Diversification Plan Update

Strategic Growth & Diversification: Planning for Success

2023-2025 Plan Evolution

Our Region 4 Growth and Diversification Plan underwent comprehensive updates in 2023, with the next strategic refresh scheduled for late 2025. This isn't just planning—it's data driven strategy development.

Our Collaborative Approach:

- Dedicated Council committee providing strategic oversight, with Council Vice-Chair Moses Foster overseeing the committee.
- Comprehensive stakeholder engagement across all sectors
- Industry-specific ideation sessions driving innovation

Expert Partnership: Dr. Bob Holsworth of DecideSmart, in collaboration with Chumura Economics and Analytics, is spearheading this critical strategic work, ensuring our plan reflects both market realities and growth opportunities.

Confirmed Growth Priorities

Our strategic analysis reinforces Region 4's commitment to our established priority clusters:

- **Workforce talent, attraction and retention**
- **Site Development**
- **Advanced Manufacturing** - Leveraging our industrial heritage for current competitiveness
- **Information Technology & Entrepreneurship** - Building the digital economy foundation
- **Logistics** - Capitalizing on our strategic geographic advantages
- **Transformative Industry clusters such as Bioscience** - Emerging as a leader in life sciences innovation

Special Focus Areas: Following comprehensive analysis through our Talent Pathways Initiative, **Pharmaceutical Manufacturing** and **Information Technology** remain top investment priorities, reflecting both market demand and regional competitive advantages.

Emerging Opportunities: The Energy Sector is under active evaluation for potential inclusion in our 2025 plan, representing our commitment to staying ahead of economic trends. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is going to transform all of our targeted clusters, and we will study the recommendations by the GO Virginia supported AI evaluation planning grant conducted by their consultants, the Economic Group.

Timeline for Success

- **September 5:** Plan presentation to Region 4 Council for approval
- **Late October:** Final submission to DHCD
- **Ongoing:** Continuous stakeholder engagement and market analysis

2024 -25 Priority Cluster Advancement: Driving Economic Transformation through our Growth and Diversification strategy.

Region 4's strategic focus this year centered on developing high-impact projects that accelerate progress across our priority clusters, ensuring every initiative aligns with our Growth and Diversification plan objectives. Our targeted approach is generating measurable results across key economic sectors.

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cluster: From Strategy to National Recognition

Strategic Investment Yields Local, State, and Federal Success

Our continued support for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cluster exemplifies strategic economic development in action. The comprehensive plan developed through our \$100,000 Enhanced Capacity Building grant became the foundation for securing \$52.9 million from the

U.S. Economic Development Administration's competitive Build Back Better initiative—demonstrating our region's national significance in pharmaceutical manufacturing and building capacity to shore-up necessary medicines to protect against international competition and potential delays.

Industry Confidence Through Major Investments

Strategic decisions by industry leaders like Civica RX to establish major facilities in Petersburg and Chesterfield validate the extraordinary potential of our pharmaceutical cluster. Recent and anticipated announcements from the Governor's office regarding additional business expansion reinforce Region 4's strategic focus on this transformative industry cluster.

Talent Pathways Initiative: Bridging Skills to Economic Growth

Strategic Workforce Development

The Talent Pathways Initiative, funded in 2024 and presented to the Region 4 Council in June, delivers targeted solutions to workforce challenges in our highest-priority sectors: Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing and Information Technology. This initiative strengthens essential partnerships between regional educational institutions and businesses, creating sustainable talent pipelines.

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Analysis: Positioning for Global Leadership

Our comprehensive study confirms that the Greater Petersburg-Richmond Region is strategically positioned to become a global leader in Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing (APM). The region has achieved remarkable progress, establishing a robust APM industry cluster in under five years. Sustaining this momentum requires continued strategic investment in workforce development, education, and infrastructure. Through coordinated talent-development strategies, enhanced industry-education partnerships, and adoption of innovative manufacturing technologies, the region will solidify its role as an important source of domestic pharmaceutical production—contributing to both regional economic security and national pharmaceutical independence.

Information Technology Workforce: Critical Growth Opportunities

Region 4's IT workforce analysis reveals we stand at a critical juncture in IT workforce development. While the region maintains strong foundations in IT education and established industry presence, addressing identified challenges is essential for sustained growth and global competitiveness. By implementing coordinated talent development strategies that foster collaboration between educational institutions and employers—and by embracing emerging technologies including AI and Cloud Computing—the region will enhance its position in IT.

Regional Entrepreneurial Initiative: Building Innovation Ecosystems

Strategic Partnership Excellence

The Regional Entrepreneurial Initiative (REI), launched under Activation Capital's strategic leadership, continues to serve as the comprehensive framework for future entrepreneurial projects aligned with our Region 4 Growth and Diversification plan. This initiative has catalyzed tremendous regional collaboration and forged new strategic partnerships across the region and the state. Building on REI's foundation, work commenced in 2024-25 on the StartUp Virginia Program: "Empowering Founders through Every Stage." Following comprehensive review by our Foundation Board, the project advanced for final approval at the July Region 4 Council meeting, demonstrating our commitment to supporting entrepreneurs throughout their complete business development journey.

In addition, even with a delayed start for the Region 4 Project Vital, Activation Capital has identified and is working with VCU researchers to create successful and impactful companies for the future. The process of identifying high potential investors and significant inventions is well underway.

The Region 4 G&D plan encourages development of and investment in well researched targeted projects that will lead to the greatest return on the Commonwealth's investment.

III. Summary of Projects

GROW Capital Jobs Region 4 submitted two Per Capita projects and one Planning Grant Project to DHCD for consideration and approval. These projects were submitted to the GO Virginia State Board for approval, and all were subsequently approved.

These projects represent an increased project portfolio of \$1,590,835. (this figure does not include match funds) Total Region 4 sponsored grants exceed \$21,000,000 to date.

THE BELOW PROJECTS WERE SUBMITTED BY REGION 4 AND APPROVED BY THE GO VIRGINIA STATE BOARD WITH THE GOAL OF ADVANCING REGION 4'S PRIORITY AREAS.

PER CAPITA WORKFORCE/TALENT PROJECTS

Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing Technician Program

The Rowanty Technical Center was awarded funding to establish an Advanced Manufacturing and Robotics Program serving Dinwiddie County, Prince George County, and Sussex County. The program enables graduates to finish with workforce readiness certification, forklift certification, OSHA10 certification, and Smarta Automation certification credentials. It will begin by focusing on high school students and eventually look to expand to adult learners and include

work-based learning opportunities such as internships. The program will enforce and build talent pipelines by connecting with GO TEC programming offered in localities for middle schoolers on one end, and Brightpoint Community College programming for dual enrollment or after high school on the other.

GO Virginia Funds: \$520,000

Matching Funds: \$260,000

Locality Match: \$79,000

Other Leverage: \$0

GO TEC Expansion - \$970,835

The Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) was awarded funding to expand the reach of the GO TEC program in GO Virginia Region 4. This organization previously established GO TEC career connection labs in schools in Dinwiddie County, Surry County, Sussex County, the City of Petersburg, the City of Colonial Heights, and the City of Hopewell as part of a GO Virginia Project, which was approved in June 2023. This new project will add new career connections in Charles City County, Prince George County, and in three middle schools in the City of Richmond.

GO Virginia Funds: \$970,835

Match: \$513,940

Locality Match: \$497,940

Additional Leverage: \$104,661

Total Project Budget: \$1,589,436

ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED PLANNING GRANT PROJECTS

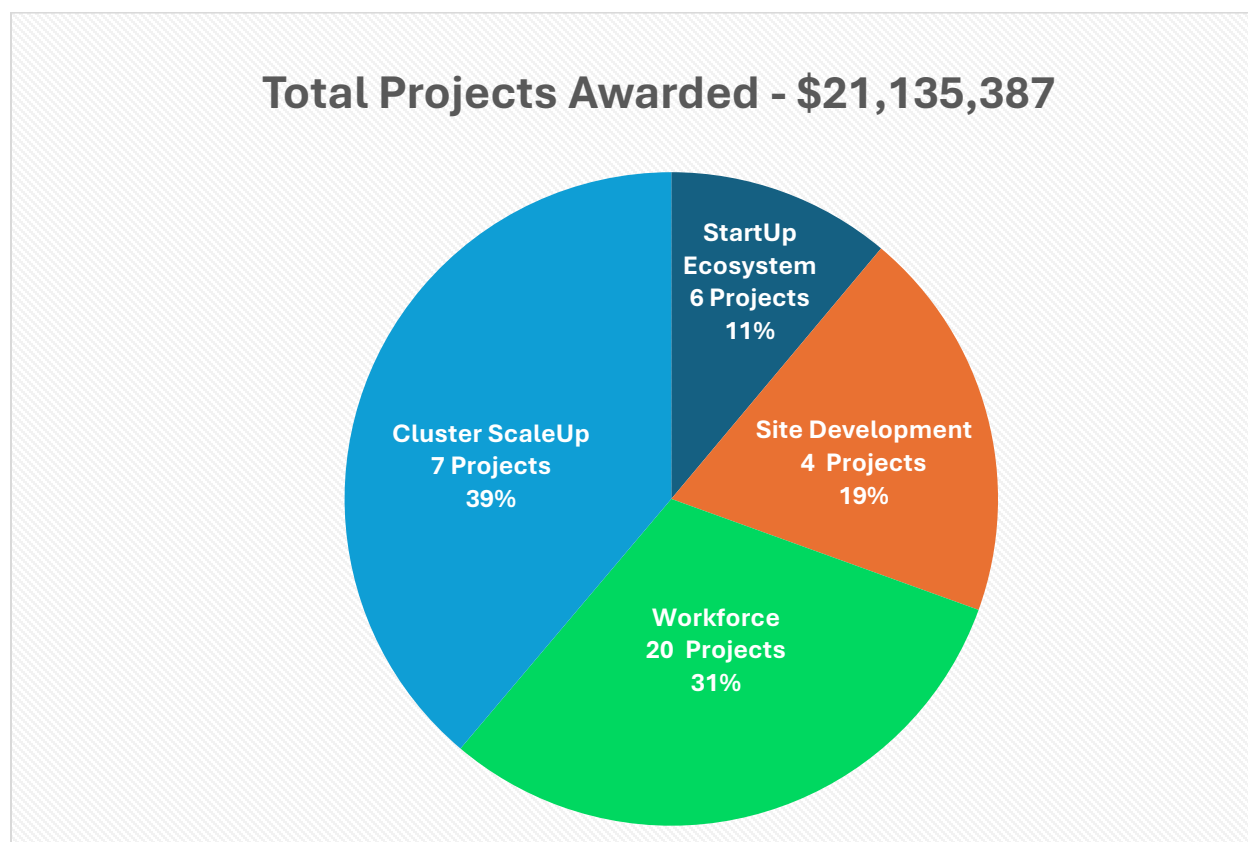
Future AI Learning and Cloud Network Project (FALCN)

Virginia Commonwealth University has played a key role in diversifying the regional economy by addressing the needs of employers in specialized areas of information technology. The university is preparing to train students to meet these areas of specific needs. This project aims to integrate advanced computing methods into the bioscience industry and to enhance programming that connects the bioscience industry within the region. To date the subgrantee has successfully utilized previous modest investments from GO Virginia to secure tens of

millions of dollars in federal funding. This project presents an opportunity to build upon that past success.

Go Virginia Funds: \$100,000

Match: \$50,000



Note: Competitive/Planning Grants led by other Regions are not included

IV. Regional Cooperation and Partner Support

Regional Collaboration & Strategic Partnerships: Building Economic Ecosystems

Collaboration among localities, education, and business remains the cornerstone of Region 4's economic development success. Our strategic approach to partnership building has created unprecedented cooperation across sectors, generating momentum that extends far beyond individual projects.

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cluster: Multi-Sector Alliance

Building Strategic Coalitions

Our Pharmaceutical Manufacturing cluster represents one of the most successful multi-jurisdictional partnerships in Virginia's economic development history. Region 4 continues to strengthen strategic alliances that bring together business, government, and educational institutions across our region to build a world-class Pharmaceutical Manufacturing ecosystem.

Key Strategic Partners:

- Virginia Gateway Region
- City of Petersburg & City of Richmond
- Chesterfield County & Henrico County
- Activation Capital
- Community College Workforce Alliance
- Greater Richmond Partnership
- CCAM (Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing)
- Virginia Commonwealth University & Virginia State University
- Phlow, Civica Rx, Nova Nordisk and Haleon

RVA757 Connects: Inter-Regional Economic Leadership

Expanding Regional Impact

Region 4 maintains strategic leadership within RVA757 Connects, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to improving economic success and quality of life across both the RVA (Region 4) and 757 (Region 5) areas. This partnership identifies, supports, and advances major opportunities that meaningfully impact both Richmond and the Hampton Roads region.

Executive Leadership Commitment

Region 4 Council leaders Todd Haymore, Mark Hourigan, and Moses Foster provide strategic direction through their service on the Executive Committee and Board. Wilson Flohr, CEO of GROW Capital Jobs Foundation, serves on the Board alongside Region 5 leadership.

Strategic Alliance Partners:

- GO Virginia Region 5
- Henrico County & City of Richmond, City of Virginia Beach
- Greater Richmond Partnership
- Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable
- Hampton Roads Community Foundation
- The Community Foundation for Greater Richmond
- Regional Chamber of Commerce's leadership

Regional Entrepreneurial Initiative: Innovation Ecosystem Development

Fostering Cross-Regional Innovation

The Regional Entrepreneurial Initiative continues to generate tremendous regional cooperation and forge new strategic partnerships. Our team participates in planning sessions to develop comprehensive entrepreneurial strategies for the entire region, with particular focus on supporting economically distressed and rural counties and cities in implementing innovation initiatives.

Comprehensive Partnership Network:

- Activation Capital & Start Up Virginia, Lighthouse Network, Dominion Energy Innovation Center
- City of Richmond, Henrico County, Chesterfield County, Hanover County
- Charles City, Goochland County, Greensville County, Powhatan County
- Virginia Gateway Region and member localities
- Greater Richmond Partnership
- Plan RVA and Crater Planning District

Talent Pathways Initiative: Educational-Industry Integration

Strategic Cluster Selection Process

A dedicated council member committee, including subject matter experts, was convened in early 2023 to identify and recommend talent development priorities. Through extensive stakeholder engagement during 2024-25, Information Technology and Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing emerged as our strategic focus areas. Brightpoint Community College was selected as the lead partner, with ChamberRVA providing strategic support.

Project Implementation Excellence

Following GO Virginia State Board approval, project implementation began in January 2024. Regular updates and presentations to the Region 4 Council have maintained momentum toward final report submission in August, ensuring strategic alignment with regional economic development objectives.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Region 4 Talent Pathways Initiative Advisory Board, and Brightpoint Community College and partners for their insights and guidance throughout this process.

- ChamberRVA
- Chesterfield County
- Henrico County
- Hanover County
- City of Hopewell

- Dinwiddie County
- Greenville County
- Prince George County
- City of Petersburg
- City of Richmond
- CodeRVA Regional High School
- Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing
- Community College Workforce Alliance
- Community Foundation for a Greater Richmond
- Grow Capital Jobs Foundation
- Reynolds Community College
- Maxx Potential
- Richmond Technology Council (RVA Tech)
- Virginia Gateway Region and Greater Richmond Partnership

Partnership Development Activities

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Infrastructure

Ongoing discussions with local officials regarding our TPI study on Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing in Petersburg are generating actionable strategies for future project development, accelerating Region 4's pharmaceutical cluster growth and contributing to the future of Virginia's Pharmaceutical Manufacturing leadership. Also, relative to GO Virginia Region 4 Pharma Cluster project efforts, Staff participated in discussions with Crater Planning District jurisdictional leaders regarding the Region 4 TPI study on the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing buildup. These discussions will assist future project development in this area, propelling Region 4's pharma cluster efforts forward and contributing to the future of Pharmaceutical Manufacturing in Virginia.

Greater Richmond Partnership Collaboration

Ongoing strategic discussions with Greater Richmond Partnership representatives ensure GO Virginia involvement aligns with broader regional economic development efforts and strategies. The results of a recent GO Virginia funded Cluster Study planning grant will be used in the Plan RVA CEDS report.

Crater Economic Development Integration

Active participation with the Crater Planning District Commission provides project updates and generates future development opportunities throughout the Crater Planning District. Significant progress has been made in the Region 4 Crater District preparing sites for economic development across the region. Thanks to the success of a GO Virginia Grant Region 4 approved

in 2021, Region 4 staff has been working in collaboration with VGR leadership to tier-up additional properties within the Crater and Gateway Region.

Cameron Foundation Strategic Partnership

Regular engagement with the Petersburg-based Cameron Foundation has created opportunities for project incubation and strategic collaboration. This year the Foundation expanded its focus on workforce development projects which align perfectly with our regional priorities, particularly in the Petersburg metro area.

Higher Education Network

Continuous engagement with regional higher education institutions—including Virginia State University, Brightpoint Community College, Reynolds Community College, Richard Bland Community College, and Virginia Commonwealth University—ensures ongoing project monitoring and future project opportunity identification.

GO Virginia State Board Participation

Staff attended the GO Virginia State Board retreat on September 9, 2024, in Danville, engaging in discussions about Commonwealth economic development priorities, goals, and strategies. Additional participation in the GO Virginia Support Organization retreat in Charlottesville (April 2025) reinforced our commitment to statewide collaboration.

Growth & Diversification Plan Development

Extensive outreach and strategic planning sessions with our Council Committee are driving the comprehensive update of our Growth & Diversification plan, scheduled for completion and submission in late 2025.

State Agency Collaboration

Strategic meetings with Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation (VIPIC) and Virginia Department of Economic Development (VEDP) staff ensure alignment between local GO Virginia projects and state economic development priorities.

Additional Efforts include:

Region 4 staff attended area Chamber meetings and forums including the VA Chamber of Commerce Annual meeting and Blue Print Virginia.

The Region 4 team attended the Convergence Conference sponsored by RVA757 Connects, ChamberRVA and the Hampton Roads Chamber, a day-long event featuring Economic Development speakers focused on IT and entrepreneurial clusters.

Region 4 staff continued to facilitate meetings to discuss and encourage potential projects. Examples include Start-Up Virginia, Virginia Gateway Region, VCU and local government EDO's directors.

V. Outcomes and Impacts

The Grow Capital Jobs Region 4 support staff performed management and reporting related activities to funded projects and provided dashboard updates to Region 4 Council members regarding milestones and objectives met.

Timeline: July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025

We executed performance closeouts on the following 5 projects during July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025:

1. **Lighthouse Labs Alumni Program** (9/23/21 – 9/22/23) used \$429k to create a Lighthouse Labs Scaleup Program. They provided professional services pertinent to each startup, alumni programming events, intern services, and DEI training. This project created 152 jobs, 42 internships, served 24 businesses, and raised 8.6 million in revenue. (performance close 9/23/24)
2. **Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cluster Scaleup** (9/23/21 – 9/22/23) used \$1.4M build the supply chain in the region by identifying and recruiting national and global qualified leads to fill gaps. It implemented a communications campaign to ensure workforce needs were identified. This project created 260 jobs, expanded 17 businesses, created 60k square feet of lab space, created an Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Technician (APMT) Certificate, and awarded 19 certificates. (performance close 9/23/24)
3. **Building a Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Talent Pipeline** (4/1/22 – 12/31/24) used \$482k to create a fully-equipped lab on the College's Chester Campus and launch Brightpoint's new Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Career Studies Certificate program in order to train 98 students and award 64 credentials. (performance close 3/28/25)
4. **New Kent County/RCC Welding Program** (10/1/22 – 3/31/24) used \$300k to repurpose the cafeteria in a former New Kent high school to support 12 welding training stations in order to train 27 students, award 53 credentials, serve 16 businesses, and enroll 17 students into dual enrollment classes. (performance close 4/8/25)
5. **Virginia Gateway Region Sites for Region 4** (1/1/22 – 12/31/23) used \$1.6 million to complete due diligence for 15 sites, converting 1551 acres to Tier 4 sites under the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP.) (performance close 4/22/25)

VI. Communication and Outreach

Go Virginia Region 4 has continued to reach out to local and regional representatives to tell the GO Virginia story and to encourage their involvement in project generation and participation. GO Virginia Region 4 staff and Council members meet with business leaders in the Region and serve on advisory and locality committees and boards to offer suggestions and guidance regarding potential projects that meet the Go Virginia guidelines and requirements.

Presentations are made to appropriate business and civic organizations to educate members on the GO Virginia initiative and process. This year's presentations on GO Virginia included Crater District elected officials and administrators as well as Region 4 area School Superintendents. Region 4 staff continue to maintain and monitor the Region 4 Grow Capital Jobs Foundation Website and Facebook page.

VII. Project Pipeline

Grow Capital Jobs Region 4 will continue to seek out projects that align with the Region's Growth and Diversification Plan. Project pipeline emphasis includes workforce training efforts surrounding the emergent Pharmaceutical and Tech Talent categories in our area and the Regional Entrepreneurship Innovation study, as well as a continued focus on site development and other workforce development opportunities in our strategic clusters.

Potential projects include:

A Planning Grant for Virginia Gateway Region to identify and tier-up 5 to 10 sites with high energy demands that can be used for Advanced Manufacturing, Logistics, Warehouse Space and potential Data Centers. This effort includes Brunswick County, a new VGR participant from Region 3.

Potential interest in an additional GO TEC program involving Henrico County as well as additional schools from the City of Richmond and potentially other jurisdictions who do not offer GO TEC programs. The goal is to expand the GO TEC program to all of our Region's middle schools.

Following the Talent Pathways Initiative, Brightpoint who recently hired a new Foundation and Corporate Relations Coordinator who will be in charge of grant writing, has been in discussion with Region 4 staff and about bringing an Information Technology grant forward as well as a potential AI grant from Reynolds.

The VCU (FALCN) planning grant is closing, and VCU has been in discussion with Region 4 staff about an implementation grant for their IBM Z16.

GO Virginia staff have been working with Robert Nomberg from Virginia Learns about an Embedded Teacher program for High School teachers to work for 6 weeks in an industrial company. Additionally, it will address the necessary durable or soft skills required for individuals to work in industry. Their first-hand experience provides them the background and knowledge to encourage students to consider choosing a local company for employment. They have match funding from Google and are working closely with us to meet our GoVa grant requirements.

Since an earlier deferral Dr Patrice Perry-Rivers with the MSBLC has been rewriting and seeking further support for the Small Business Opportunity Center at VCU. Strategically they are carefully considering when to reintroduce the project to DHCD and the Go Virginia State board ensuring there is no duplication of existing programs on other regions.

In Summary:

- Talent and Workforce projects expected to emerge as a result of the TPI study
- An additional GO TEC project focused on Richmond Region middle schools
- A potential Start-Up Virginia project centered on an expansion of the previously funded Idea factory project by expanding their geographic footprint.
- A Competitive project centered on our Small Business Opportunity Center project expansion.
- The Council will continue to work on upgrading the number of business-ready sites throughout the region, especially where limited resources need to be supplemented by external funds.
- Expanded efforts through existing and potential projects to build and strengthen our entrepreneurial efforts especially in our rural communities.
- With AI's increasing important role in our economic landscape, we will evaluate possible AI projects including a potential Brightpoint and/or Reynolds Community College sponsored project.

VIII. Leadership

FY 24 – 25 Council Membership

Council Notes

The Go Virginia Region 4 Council met 7 times during this annual reporting session. The Region 4 Executive Committee met twice, and the Region 4 Nominating Committee met once. The Region 4 Annual meeting was held June 17, 2025.

The Council was certified in compliance with the GO Virginia regulations

Council Membership

Brian Anderson, President and CEO Chamber RVA

Dr. Joseph P. Casey, County Administrator, Chesterfield County

John William “Will” Clements, President and CEO, Bank of Southside Virginia

Elizabeth Creamer, Vice President, Workforce Development & Credential Attainment, Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA)

Moses W. Foster., CEO, West Cary Group, **Vice Chair**

William H. Goodwin Jr., Chairman Emeritus of CCA Industries, Inc. and The Riverstone Group, LLC

Todd P. Haymore, Managing Director, Hunton Andrews Kurth, **Chair**

Mark J. Hourigan, CEO, Hourigan Construction

Robert H. Locke, Senior Vice President – Electric Distribution, Dominion Energy

John A. Luke Jr., Non-executive Chairman, WestRock (formerly MeadWestvaco)

Dr. Wayne Lyle, Superintendent of Schools, Prince George County

Dr. Mark E. Moore, Crater Regional Planning District Commission; local planning and economic development, Crater Vision Center

Dr. Paula Pando, President of Reynolds Community College

Chuck Pollard, Chief Operating Officer, Achieve One

Dr. Michael Rao, Ph.D. President, Virginia Commonwealth University and VCU Health

Martha Shickle, Executive Director, Richmond Regional Planning District Commission

Wendy Shields, Director, Community Impact, Altria

Natalie Slate, Deputy Administrator/Director of Economic Development, Greenville County

Monica Smith-Callahan, Deputy County Manager, Community Affairs, County of Henrico

Lorin S. Sodell, Director of External and Industry Engagement & Director of Business Development and Advanced Manufacturing Education College of Engineering and Technology, Virginia State University & Commonwealth Center of Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM)

Paul Tuck, Consultant, Ashland Chemical

Charles W. Wilson, President and managing Partner, CW Consulting Group

IX. Support Organization Information

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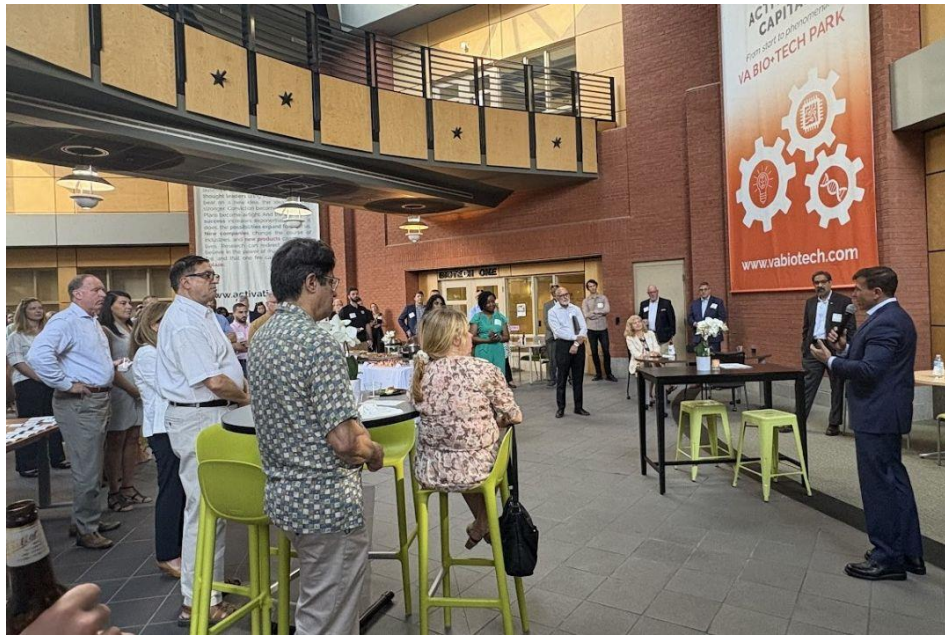
Region 4 Photos

Below are three photos from a recent **Project Vital** networking event, **Growing the Regional Eco-System**, held in Richmond at the Biotech Park.

Photo 1: John Crowley, CEO of BIO (Biotechnology Industry Organization) speaks at a recent networking event held at BIO Tech 1.

Photo 2: From left to right: Dr. Srirama Rao, VP of Research and Innovation, VCU, John Crowley, CEO of BIO, John Newby, CEO of Virginia Biotechnology Association, and Nicolai Shurman, Senior Director of Activation Capita attended the Project Vital networking event.

Photo 3: Attendees at the project Vital networking event.





Biotechnology students' study in GO Virginia funded ARISE program laboratories. The project trains skilled laboratory technicians by creating a fully equipped learning laboratory at the Reynolds Downtown Campus. The project seeks to develop and launch a laboratory technician major in the Associate of Science degree pathways, working with industry partners to bring in entry-level employees.

Photo 4 and 5

