



November 15, 2023
Board & MIC Meeting
10 a.m. to noon



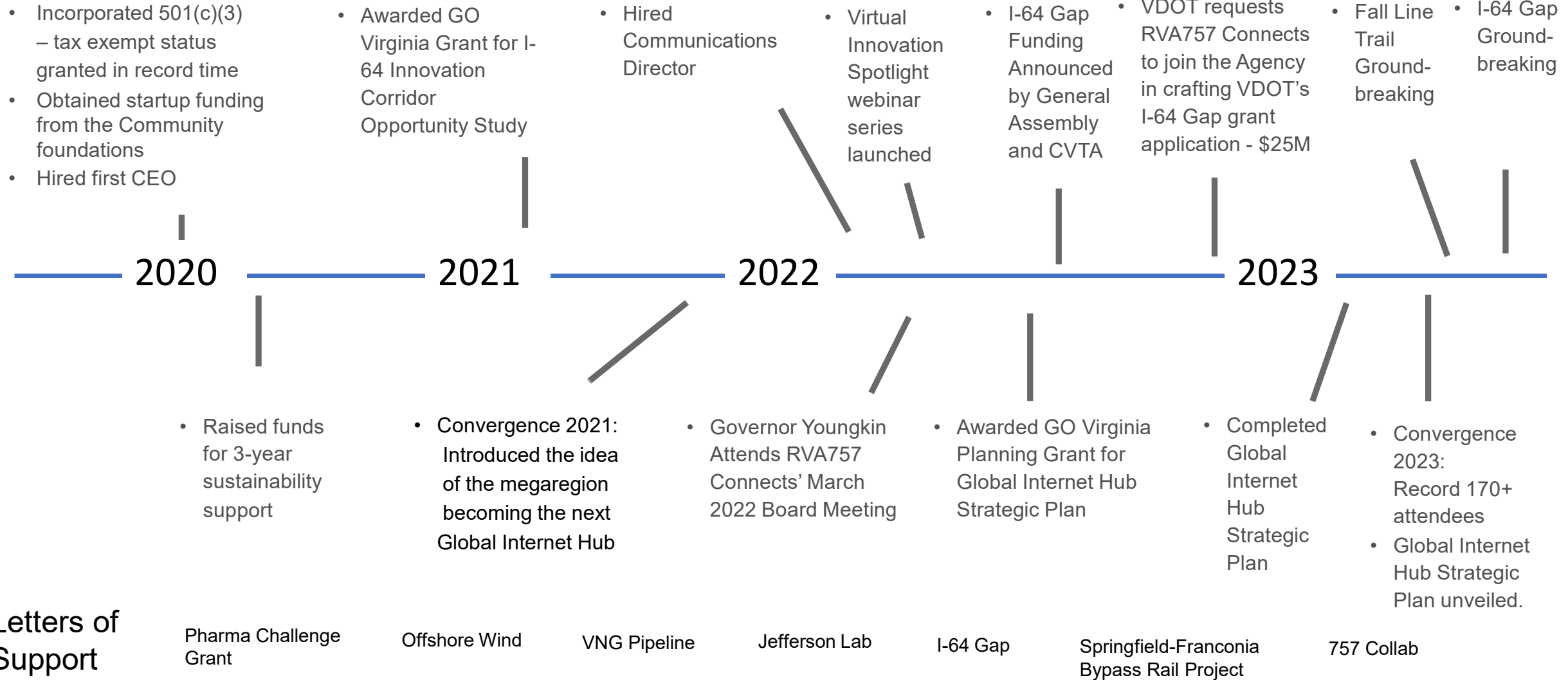


Welcome

Theodore L. Chandler, Jr.
Co-founder, NRV
Co-Chair, RVA757 Connects



RVA757 Connects' Momentum





Welcome New Directors

Joined 2023



New Directors: February 2023



Martin J. Barrington

Chairman
Anheuser-Busch InBev



Donald Graul

President and CEO
Branch Group



Ting Xu

Founder and Chairwoman
Evergreen Enterprises

**Thomas J.
McInerney**

President and CEO
Genworth Financial



Shamim Mohammad

Executive Vice President
Chief Information and
Technology Officer
CarMax

New Directors: September 2023

Nneka Chiazor

Market Vice President
Hampton Roads
Cox Communications



Robert "Bobby" L. Cowgill

Virginia State President
SouthState Bank

Bob Howard

Chief Investment Officer
Gold Key | PHR



Giovanna M. Genard

Vice President of External
Affairs and Marketing Leader
PRA Group

In Memory of John O. “Dubby” Wynne



“He was a generous person with his time, energy and money. He was tireless and would say, ‘Let’s just get it done.’ ”

*Harry Lester,
Retired, President Emeritus
Eastern Virginia Medical School*



John O. “Dubby” Wynne
1945 – 2023

Credit: Bobby Cullipher

Today's Agenda

RVA757 Connects' Committee Updates + Communications

- Government Relations – Ross Grogg and Christopher Lloyd
- Development Committee – Mitch Haddon
- Nominations and Governance – Sarah Jane Kirkland and Moses Foster
- Communications – Greg Gilligan

RVA757 Connects' Initiatives Updates and Next Steps – John W. Martin

RVA757 Connects' 2023 Performance – John W. Martin

- 2023 Best Hits
- 2023 Board/MIC Survey Findings

Featured Topic #1: Update on GO Virginia – Nancy Grden and Wilson Flohr, Jr.

Featured Topic #2: Taking the I-64 Innovation Corridor to the Next Level - Group Discussion

Closing Remarks – Thomas R. Frantz, Co-Chair, RVA757 Connects

Contact us.

For more information about our initiatives or to get involved, reach out to:

John W. Martin
President and CEO

Gregory J. Gilligan
Communications Director

Laura Robidoux
Business Manager

Mailing Address
2601 Floyd Avenue
Richmond, VA 23220
info@rva757connects.com

Connect with us to learn more about RVA757 Connects and the I-64 Innovation Corridor.

Name (required)
First Name Last Name

Email (required)

Send

RVA757 Connects
RVA757 Connects is a 501(c)(3) organization focused on advancing the economic prosperity for everyone in the Richmond region (RVA) and Hampton Roads (HSR).

[Documents](#)

Follow us online:
Facebook
Twitter
LinkedIn

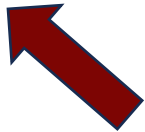
RVA757 connects About Our Initiatives Virtual Innovation Spotlight Convergence Media [Contact Us](#)

2023 Documents

- Executive Committee Meeting Documents +
- Board/MIC Meeting Documents +
- Financial and Tax Documents +

2022 Documents

- Executive Committee Meeting Minutes +
- Board/MIC Meeting Documents +



Board portal

RVA757 Connects' Committee Updates

Government Relations –
Ross Grogg and Christopher Lloyd

Development – Mitch Haddon

Nominations and Governance – Sarah Jane
Kirkland and Moses Foster

Communications – Greg Gilligan

Discussion

On Our Committee Work

Communications Update

Greg Gilligan
Vice President of Operations



About Our In

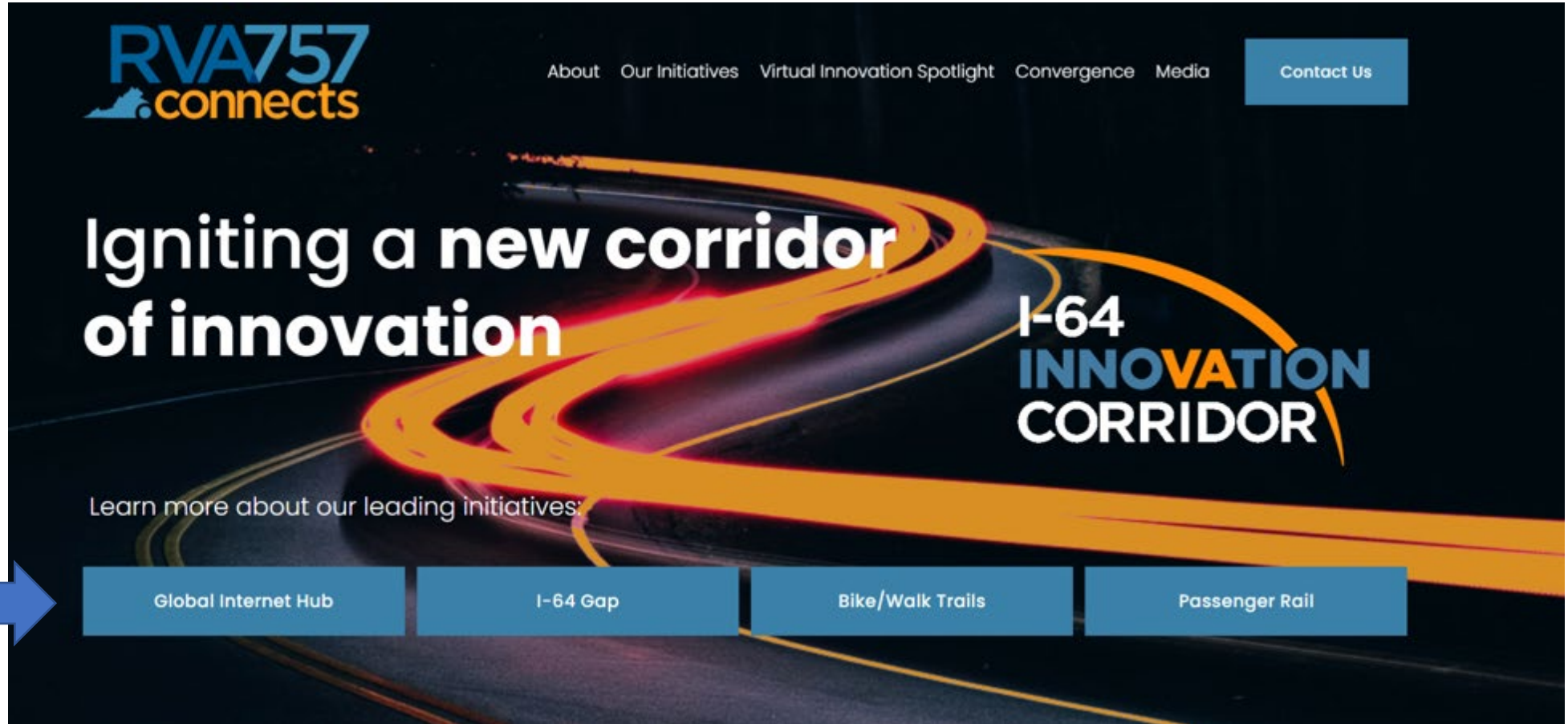
Igniting a new co of innovation

Learn more about our leading initiatives:

Global Internet Hub

I-64 Gap

Website: www.rva757connects.com



Our four major initiatives

The world's next Global Internet Hub isn't a city, but a megaregion: The Richmond region and Hampton Roads

Presented at the Convergence 2023 conference on September 28, 2023



Virtual Innovation Spotlight series



I-64
INNOVATION
CORRIDOR

The website features the past webinars in 2023 and 2022

2023 webinars

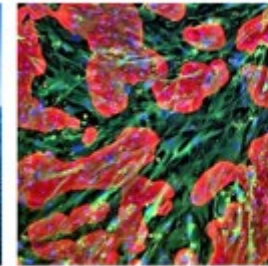


6/7/23

Virginia's offshore wind project: Harnessing the power of wind to generate electricity while creating a new industry

Dominion Energy built the first wind farm installed in federal waters - 27 miles off the coast of Virginia Beach - propelling renewable energy forward. As a result, Hampton Roads is becoming the East Coast supply chain hub for this growing wind industry.

[Read More](#)



5/3/23

Life-changing innovation taking place in Virginia Beach

Innovation is the driving force behind Virginia Beach-based LifeNet Health's success in regenerative medicine and life sciences.

[Read More](#)



4/5/23

Teaching for a digital economy: Virginia colleges are expanding tech programs

The universities, community colleges, and technical schools along the I-64 Innovation Corridor are investing in tech talent development and training in many different ways.

[Read More](#)



3/1/23

Boosting computer science education is key to developing Virginia's growing tech sector

The growth of digital industries is changing the face of the future workforce, who will need to be well-versed in tech skills and digital literacy. Workforce training for Virginia's tech talent pipeline needs to start long before college.

[Read More](#)

Recordings are available after each webinar on

www.rva757connects.com



Forefront of innovation: Jefferson Lab lands a state-of-the-art supercomputing hub



FOREFRONT OF INNOVATION:

JEFFERSON LAB LANDS NEW DATA SCIENCE COMPUTING CENTER FOR CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH



The Speaker:

Stuart Henderson has served as the director of Jefferson Lab since April 2017. As laboratory director, Henderson provides the vision for the lab's operations and future. He sets laboratory policy and program direction; procures sufficient funding for optimal operation; oversees the successful delivery of its research programs; and ensures that Jefferson Lab complies with all regulations and laws and fulfills its contractual obligations. He also serves as a Governor's Distinguished CEBAF Professor at Old Dominion University.



[Register Here](#)

Tune in Wednesday November 1 at noon to learn about Jefferson Lab in Newport News being at the forefront of innovation as the site for a new national data science computing center. The new High Performance Data Facility is a \$300 million to \$500 million project



– the single biggest technology investment ever made in Hampton Roads. Learn how this state-of-the-art supercomputing facility plays an important role in the economic and technological viability of the I-64 Innovation Corridor.

Jefferson Lab – formally called the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility – will be conducting cutting-edge technological research and making scientific data more accessible to scientists and researchers nationwide with the new High Performance Data Facility.

The new facility will be a computing and data infrastructure resource to provide transformational capabilities for data analysis, networking, and storage for the nation's research enterprise. The goal is to speed up the pace of scientific discovery by providing researchers with the ability to seamlessly access data from a wide range of sources and scientific

Next Virtual Innovation Spotlight:



ROCKETLAB

Taking off on Virginia's Eastern Shore

Wednesday December 6, 2023
Noon to 1 p.m.



I-64
INNOVATION
CORRIDOR

Discussion

On Communications



RVA757 Connects Initiatives Updates

John W. Martin



I-64 Gap Project Update

Monday, November 13, 2023



Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan Initiative Update

Our How: 10 Core Strategies

How we are building our Global Internet Hub:

RVA757 Connects, a nonprofit organization focused on advancing economic prosperity for everyone in the Richmond area (RVA) and Hampton Roads (757) region, identified the opportunity to accelerate the development of the I-64 Innovation Corridor's digital infrastructure. The organization established a Steering Committee with more than 60 leaders from 10 separate industries. The group hired two leading international digital infrastructure consultants – TeleGeography and InterGlobe – with the goal to develop a strategic vision and action framework capitalizing on the combined digital assets of the Richmond area and Hampton Roads.

This initiative was made possible by a grant from GO Virginia and financial supporters from both markets: Dominion Energy, Henrico County, the City of Virginia Beach, the Hampton Roads Alliance, Old Dominion University, and the Dragonfly Group.



Strategic Framework Recommendations:

Ten strategies have been identified to make the I-64 Innovation Corridor one of the world's recognized Global Internet Hubs.

1. Establish a Global Internet Hub Industry Council.

The Steering Committee will transform into the Global Internet Hub Council. The Council will be responsible for implementing the Strategic Plan recommendations.

2. Increase regional awareness.

Increased awareness, support, and coordination of multiple stakeholders – businesses, government agencies, local and state-level elected officials, and community groups – will be needed to develop the region's digital infrastructure. The Council will design, launch, and sustain general outreach and education programs across the I-64 Innovation Corridor.

3. Increase global investor awareness.

Spreading the word internationally about the I-64 Innovation Corridor to the global infrastructure community and investors will be necessary to attract additional digital infrastructure investments in data centers, terrestrial networks, IXPs, and more international subsea cables.

4. Support the growth of robust local internet networks.

Promote the need for additional investment in local terrestrial networks and routes connecting the region to other hub markets. An inventory of existing routes will be created and shared with the industry and investors.

5. Attract additional international subsea cables.

Landing more subsea cables is a critically important component. The Council will work with Virginia Beach and the Hampton Roads Alliance to promote the availability of additional landing sites, diversified Cable Landing Stations, and work to finalize and promote no-anchor protection zones.

6. Support the growth of data centers.

Data centers are the engines of a digital economy. Now is the time to support data center growth in the I-64 Innovation Corridor, already home to 12 data centers and with more planned. The Council will support local and regional economic development organizations in inventorying and packaging viable data center site locations. The Council also will work to repeal the 2035 sunset law for state tax incentives for data centers.

7. Encourage the growth of Internet Exchanges and Internet Exchange Points.

Internet Exchanges (IXs) and Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) are foundational elements of a successful Global Internet Hub. The Richmond region has one IX (on the DE-CIX network) in Henrico. Hampton Roads does not have any at this point, but it needs one. The Council will encourage the growth of IXs and IXPs in both the Richmond area and Hampton Roads.



8. Explore the potential of a network ring.

Local interconnectivity was a major factor of success for other regions in becoming a global interconnection point. The Council will support the completion of the regional fiber ring in Hampton Roads and help the RVA region explore the need for a regional ring as well as a Corridor long loop.

9. Promote Dominion Energy's capacity to support digital infrastructure growth.

Dominion Energy has the power and the capacity to support energy-intensive digital infrastructure growth. The Council will share that story to help support Northern Virginia while positioning the I-64 Innovation Corridor as the optimal place to expand data center presence. The Council also will map viable data center sites.

10. Provide a growing tech-savvy workforce.

A robust and growing digital infrastructure requires tech talent. The Council will inventory and share the existing tech talent pipeline education and training programs with all digital infrastructure organizations, businesses, and education and training ecosystems to help maximize their use and identify additional programming needs. (See the other side for a list of Richmond area and Hampton Roads educational institutions.)

The World's Next Global Internet Hub

These 10 strategic recommendations will enable the I-64 Innovation Corridor to compete effectively for the high-paying jobs that the emergent digital economy is projected to create over the next decade. It will take the combined success across all of these initiatives to make the RVA and the 757 regions a world-class digital infrastructure and reach international recognition.

Global Internet Hub Steering Committee

More than 60 leaders from 10 different industry and business categories comprised the Steering Committee. The Clarion call to the Steering Committee was to develop a vision, goals, and an action framework that will capitalize on the combined digital assets of the Richmond region and Hampton Roads in a way that drives the overall economic prosperity of both regions.

See the members of the Steering Committee.



For more information on the Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan, go to: www.GlobalInternetHub.org

When

Milestones showing the momentum behind the digital infrastructure growth across the I-64 Innovation Corridor:



Global Internet Hub Council (new RVA757 Committee)

\$100K+ Additional Funding Monthly Meetings



Members:

- Dominion Energy
- Henrico
- Virginia Beach
- ODU
- Dragonfli Group
- Pixel Factory
- Alliance
- Greater Richmond Partnership

RVA757 connects		Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan Next Steps		I-64 INNOVATION CORRIDOR	
		November 14, 2023			
Strategic Imperative	Lead Org.	Action Framework	Immediate Next Steps		
1. Global Internet Hub: Establish a Global Internet Hub Council	GIH Council RVA757 Connects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn the Steering Committee into GIH Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send letters of requests for support. 		
2. Local Stakeholder Awareness: Through outreach and education, increase awareness, familiarity, and support among local stakeholders in the I-64 Innovation Corridor for digital infrastructure development.	GIH Council RVA757 Connects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a presentation deck and handout (map) to explain the essence of a GIH (completed). • Make presentations to local governments, business organizations, and other stakeholders with the plan as a handout. • Long-term: explore certification programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing Presentations made to Virginia Beach, Suffolk, and General Assembly Technology Committee. • After the November 7 election, reach out to all jurisdiction in I-64 Innovation Corridor to schedule briefings. 		
3. Global Investor Awareness: Increase international awareness of and familiarity with the I-64 Innovation Corridor among the global digital infrastructure community, in general, and digital infrastructure investors, in particular. Attract additional international subsea cables.	Hampton Roads Alliance Greater Richmond Partnership RVA757 Connects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and update the Global Internet Hub website. • Place an Executive Summary map of the I-64 Innovation Corridor's digital assets along with the Strategic Plan's highlights in global trade publications. • Create a roadshow presentation about the I-64 Innovation Corridor as a GIH for state and local economic development agencies to use as appropriate. • Starting in 2024, attend and present at the most important GIH international events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review consulting proposal by Vinay Nagpal • Review map insert proposal by InterGlobix magazine. 		
4. Terrestrial Networks: Support the growth of robust local internet networks and routes connecting other hub markets.	GIH Council RVA757 Connects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the GIH Council create a comprehensive inventory of established and planned networks. • Put this annual inventory on the globalinternethub.org website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create the inventory. Share with the terrestrial network industry for confirmation. 		
5. Subsea Cables: Attract additional international subsea cables 5A Secure additional landing sites 5B Diversify Cable Landing Stations 5C Work on no-anchor protection zone	Virginia Beach Hampton Roads Alliance RVA757 Connects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and building subsea cables takes 6-8 years. Now is the time to influence the next 10-12 cables needed for the East Coast. • Advance Virginia's shoreline as an opportunity for more subsea cable landings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package this opportunity in a PowerPoint deck (TeleGeography is standing by to assist) • Approach investors and operators • Work with appropriate parties to accelerate the adoption of a no-anchor protection zone 		
6. Data Centers: Support the growth of data centers.	Hampton Roads Alliance Greater Richmond Partnership Virginia Beach Henrico County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now is the time to support data center growth given Amazon's announcement and NOVA's issues. • Support local and regional economic development organizations in inventorying and packaging viable data center sites in the I-64 Innovation Corridor. • Work to repeal the 2035 sunset law for state tax incentives for data centers. This tax will come back in 2035 unless it is eliminated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Alliance's top site study. • Finalize the decision on site certification plan and funding source - GO Virginia or the state's site-ready budget • Formulate an advocacy plan with VEDP to repeal the 2035 sunset law 		

Increase Passenger Rail Service Between and to/from RVA and 757 Regions


Continue to Advocate for Rail Improvements in Our Megaregion – VPRA & DRPT’s 5-Year Rail Plan

RVA757 Connects
+
PlanRVA (PDC)
+
Crater
Planning District
(PDC)
+
HRPDC/HRTPO
(PDC)



Richmond and Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Topics 07-10-23

1. At what point in time during the Long Bridge-related planning and construction can the State realistically start to make significant passenger rail improvements in other regions?
2. How high of a priority is Virginia's east-west cross-state service (The Commonwealth Corridor) over other regional improvements? Does this realistically affect what we can expect for the RVA-757 region in the next plan?
3. Is funding for the James River expansion south of Main Street Station in the statewide Rail Plan?
4. What is the level of service needed to really make Richmond-to-Newport News work for local RVA-757 passengers? One train every x hours.
5. What is the level of service needed to really make Richmond-Petersburg-Norfolk work for local RVA-757 passengers? One train every x hours?
6. Is the Appomattox Bridge replacement a possibility for future planning consideration?
7. How realistic is the S-Line: RVA to Raleigh? Is N.C. really pushing this?
8. Could improved Norfolk to Raleigh service ever compete with drive time? How can we make sure our trains align to create improved seamless travel opportunities between 757 and North Carolina?
9. How might we reduce delays between Canal Drive (in Chesapeake) and the Norfolk Train Station?



5 Year Plan



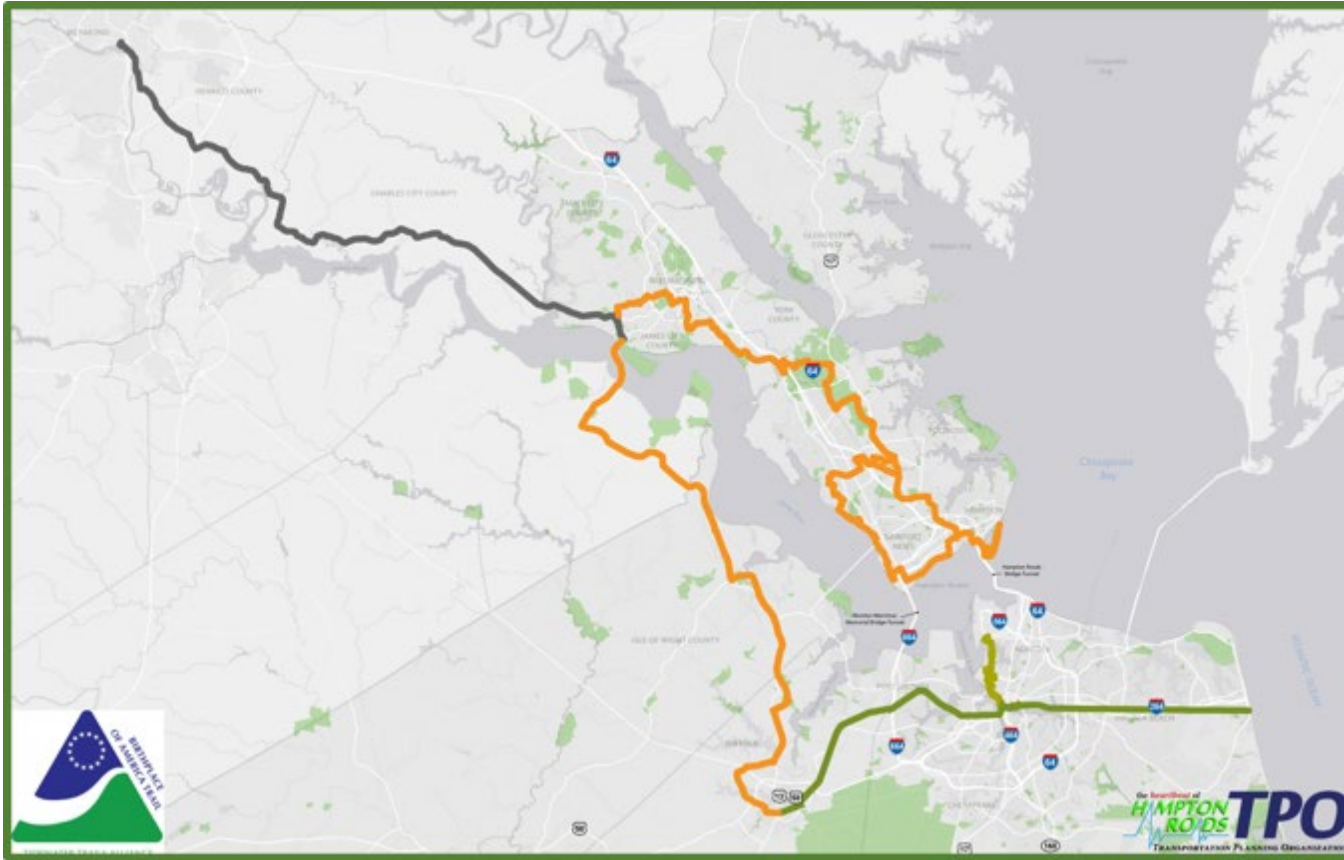
Support the Creation and Extension of Walk-Bike Trails

Fall Line Construction Update

- October 2023 groundbreaking in Henrico.
- Winter 2024 groundbreaking in Hanover.
- Phases consisting of up to 20 miles should be under construction in the next 12 months and be completed by end of 2026.
- \$252 million raised to date.
- Additional funding of \$48 million still needed for completion of entire trail.



BoAT Trail / Virginia Capital Trail



- \$500M for both segments.
- Local governments very supportive.
- Only small segments moving forward.
- Need more traction with the Administration.



Challenge: Misperceptions

Opportunity: A Case for Support and Strong Advocacy Needed

Crafting a Strategic White Paper to Advance Bike Trails in Virginia

Document Purpose:

This paper is a compelling, fact-full document that makes the economic case for Virginia's ramped up investment in becoming America's best state for biking.

The Three Key Themes and Call to Action of This Document:

- Bike trails deliver economic impact and growth – there's unassailable evidence.
- We all must accelerate Virginia's investment in developing bike trails. Here are specific steps we can take immediately.
- We are behind/we must act now. (Team, we need to identify some case for urgency, such as losing and retaining talent, and not keeping up with other states with bike/walk trails).

Key Audiences:

This paper will be shared with all biking stakeholders to use with local, regional, state, and federal officials to accelerate investment in bike trails.


Document Positioning:

This paper must be overtly clear that we are talking about dedicated bike/walk trails, not urban bike lanes and shared lane markings (sharrows).

What are the best names for these two different types of resources?

- dedicated bike/walk trails
- urban bike lanes and shared lane markings (sharrows)

Follow our I-64 Gap model.



Focus on economic development arguments with numerous case studies from around the country.

Package and work with partners to target the “new” General Assembly.

Discussion

On Our Current Initiatives



RVA757 Connects 2023 Performance

John W. Martin
President and CEO





Best Hits of 2023



Growing Number of Partnerships



Jason El Koubi

President and CEO



VIRGINIA'S PASSENGER RAIL: KEYS TO FURTHER SUCCESS



ABOUT



The mission of the Southern Environmental Law Center is to protect the basic right to clean air, clean water, and a livable climate; to preserve our region's natural treasures and rich biodiversity; and to provide a healthy environment for all.

southernenvironment.org

[@selc_org](https://twitter.com/selc_org)

[@southernenvironment](https://www.facebook.com/southernenvironment)

[@selc](https://www.instagram.com/selc)



Virginians for High Speed Rail is a nonprofit coalition of citizens, businesses, localities, community organizations, and economic development agencies that educate and advocate for the expansion of fast, frequent, and reliable rail service connecting our communities to increase the economic potential of the Commonwealth.

vhr.com

[@vhr](https://twitter.com/vhr)

[@vhr](https://www.facebook.com/vhr)



RVA757 Connects is a nonprofit organization focused on advancing the economic prosperity for everyone in the Richmond region (RVA) and Hampton Roads (757) – a megaregion called the I-64 Innovation Corridor. The organization identifies, supports, and advances major opportunities, initiatives, and projects that meaningfully benefit both the Richmond and Hampton Roads regions.

rva757connects.com

[@rva757c](https://twitter.com/rva757c)

[@rva757connects](https://www.facebook.com/rva757connects)

[@rva757connects](https://www.instagram.com/rva757connects)

[rva757-connects](https://www.linkedin.com/company/rva757-connects)



The Greater Washington Partnership is the first-of-its-kind nonprofit alliance of the region's most influential leading employers across diverse industries in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC – all committed to championing the region's economic growth and vibrancy.

greaterwashingtonpartnership.com

[@gw_partnership](https://twitter.com/gw_partnership)

[@greaterwashingtonpartnership](https://www.facebook.com/greaterwashingtonpartnership)



NRV Passenger Rail is broad-based community initiative to bring Amtrak passenger rail service to Virginia's New River Valley. Formed in 2013, NRV Passenger Rail represents a unique partnership between business, municipal, legislative, and university leaders with support from all corners of our region.

nrpassengerail.org

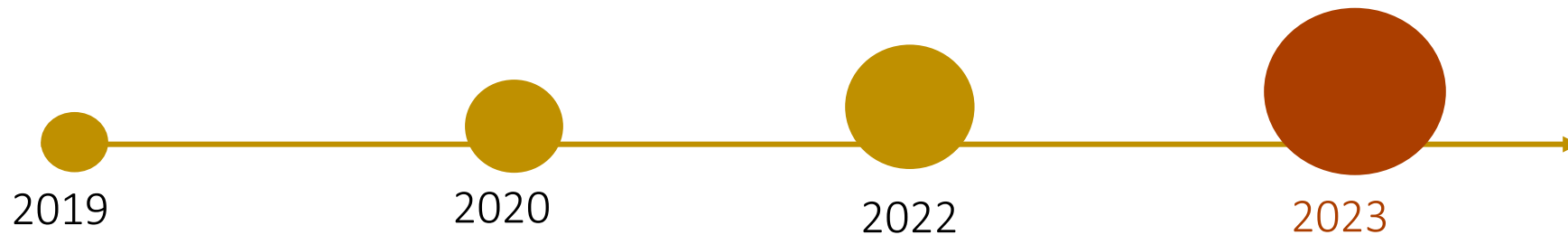
[@nrvrail2020](https://twitter.com/nrvrail2020)

[@nrpassengerail](https://www.facebook.com/nrvpassengerail)



Convergence 2023: Record Crowd and Sponsors

2023 CONVERGENCE



**Record # of Participants ... 170+
... Record Sponsorships**

virginia BUSINESS

RVA757 Connects releases plan for global internet hub

Group calls for digital infrastructure growth across Richmond, Hampton Roads

PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

BY KATHERINE SCHULTE



RVA757 Connects President and CEO John Martin presents the organization's digital infrastructure map in Williamsburg on Sept. 28. Photo courtesy RVA757 Connects.

RVA757 Connects, a nonprofit focused on regional cooperation for economic development in Richmond and Hampton Roads, released on Thursday its 10-point strategic plan for transforming the "megaregion" into the next global internet hub.

Virginia is already home to the world's largest internet hub in Loudoun County's Ashburn area, which has the **world's greatest concentration of data centers** — Data Center Alley — through which more than 70% of global internet traffic is routed. From 2017 to 2021, data centers **contributed \$54.2 billion** to Virginia's gross domestic product, according to a PricewaterhouseCoopers study released in September. And now RVA757 Connects hopes to build similar success across the megaregion.

Internet hubs have subsea and terrestrial cable landing points and access to physical fiber networks, a combination of data centers and internet exchange points, and internet service providers, according to RVA757 Connects, which defines a global internet hub as "a physical location that facilitates the exchange of internet traffic among multiple networks, internet service providers, content delivery networks and other interconnected entities."

THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE

Economy is resilient, but could slow next year, business leader says



Jason El Koubi, who is leading Virginia's plan to drive growth as president and CEO of Virginia Economic Development Partnership, speaks at the annual Convergence Conference on Thursday at the Williamsburg Lodge.

By BRANDY CENTOLANZA | bcentolanza@cox.net | PUBLISHED: September 29, 2023

WILLIAMSBURG — Business, education and throughout Hampton Roads gathered on Thursday at the Williamsburg Lodge for the formation of economic prosperity into the future.

The event was held at the Williamsburg Lodge from Chamber RVA, Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce and Virginia Economic Development Partnership. The event was the first of a series of events that will be held throughout the region. "We are trying to bring two unique regions together," Stephens, president and CEO of Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce, said.

Richmond Times-Dispatch

VIRGINIA'S NEWS LEADER

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

richmond.com • \$3

Saturday, September 30, 2023

I-64 widening east of Richmond to start in November

SAVE NEWS
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Work is set to begin in November on widening Interstate 64 east of Richmond, with the aim of completing a six-mile, four-lane connection to the Department of Transportation's new Virginia Expressway in James City County. The widening is to add a third lane in each direction on I-64 in New Kent County and the northern reaches of James City County. The wider highway would connect with the recently widened section of I-64 between Newport News and Williamsburg.

The widening in New Kent and James City, along with the already added between Newport News and Williamsburg and the two new sections under way near the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, will tackle the chronic traffic jams that frustrate commuters moving along Interstate 64 and part of the I-64 widening project in Hampton Roads. The first work, east of Richmond between mile 205, by the Bottoms Bridge exit, to mile 215, just east of the exit for Route 219 and Providence Forge, is set to start in July 2027 and will cost \$210 million. The cost is coming in below VDOT's estimate of \$272.8 million.

A team of Shibley Contracting and the Dewberry design firm will be the contractor.

Work on a second segment, which is 4 miles east of the exit for Route 33 and West Point, is set for completion in April 2028. VDOT has estimated it would cost \$244 million.

VDOT will seek bids next spring for the third segment, between mile 234 and 238 — where the already-widened portion of I-64 begins. This portion is expected to be finished in November 2027. VDOT estimates this cost at \$231.8 million.

The budget compromise the General Assembly enacted this year includes \$100 million more for widening I-64 in New Kent and James City counties, while the Central Virginia Transportation Authority, the Richmond regional body that deploys funds from the region's sales and fuel taxes, has committed \$100 million to get started on what is likely to be a \$70 million project when it is completed.

The highway between Newport News and Williamsburg was widened in the same way as is planned for the work east of Richmond — by cutting lanes and without lanes. That often meant using the shoulder as a travel lane.

Business groups in eastern Virginia are excited about the two



This view shows Interstate 64 near the Bottoms Bridge exit in New Kent County. The first I-64 widening work will carve away at the median east for Route 219 and Providence Forge.

Richmond and Hampton Roads regions' economic future. **Save News** (804) 649-9348 www.richmond.com

Thank You!



Bryan Stephens
President and CEO



Brian Anderson
President and CEO



RVA757 Connects Communications



3,500+

RVA757 Connects' Database



400 followers

up more than 140 percent in the past 12 months

Of our followers:

- 51 percent from the RVA region
- 32 percent from Hampton Roads
- 24 percent in senior level jobs
- 17 percent in director level positions
- 16 percent at the vice president level

Our top two posts:

- Members of the Global Internet Hub Steering Committee taking a tour of the Meta data center: **more than 1,450 views**
- Convergence 2023: **more than 1,000 views**

4

**Franconia-Springfield Rail
Bypass Project
Funding – \$100 Million**

Sept. 2023: \$100 Million Rail Expansion Award

Franconia-Springfield Bypass



The project hopes to enable seamless passage for Amtrak and Virginia Railway Express trains over two freight rail tracks, preventing delays and expanding capacity for additional service.



DJ Stadtler
Executive Director



March 7, 2023

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

SUBJECT: Franconia-Springfield Bypass as part of the FY22 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The proposed Franconia-Springfield Bypass is an important rail project in Virginia that will help expand passenger rail capacity and reduce conflicts between passenger trains and freight trains along an important East Coast rail corridor.

RVA757 Connects' Support:

RVA757 Connects supports the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority's application for the Franconia-Springfield Bypass Project under the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program for the fiscal year 2022.

The Franconia-Springfield Bypass is part of the rail corridor running between Washington, D.C. and Richmond, Va. The corridor is a central component of the East Coast rail transportation system. Improvements made along this strategic corridor will help expand service between Washington and Richmond and between Washington and Hampton Roads (Norfolk and Newport News).

Improving service along this corridor is central to why RVA757 Connects is pleased to provide this letter of support.

RVA757 Connects is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to improving the economic success and quality of life for everyone in the Richmond area (RVA) and Hampton Roads (757) region. We are an inclusive, mutually supportive network of leaders representing business, community, and higher education. (A list of our Board Directors is included at the end of this letter.)

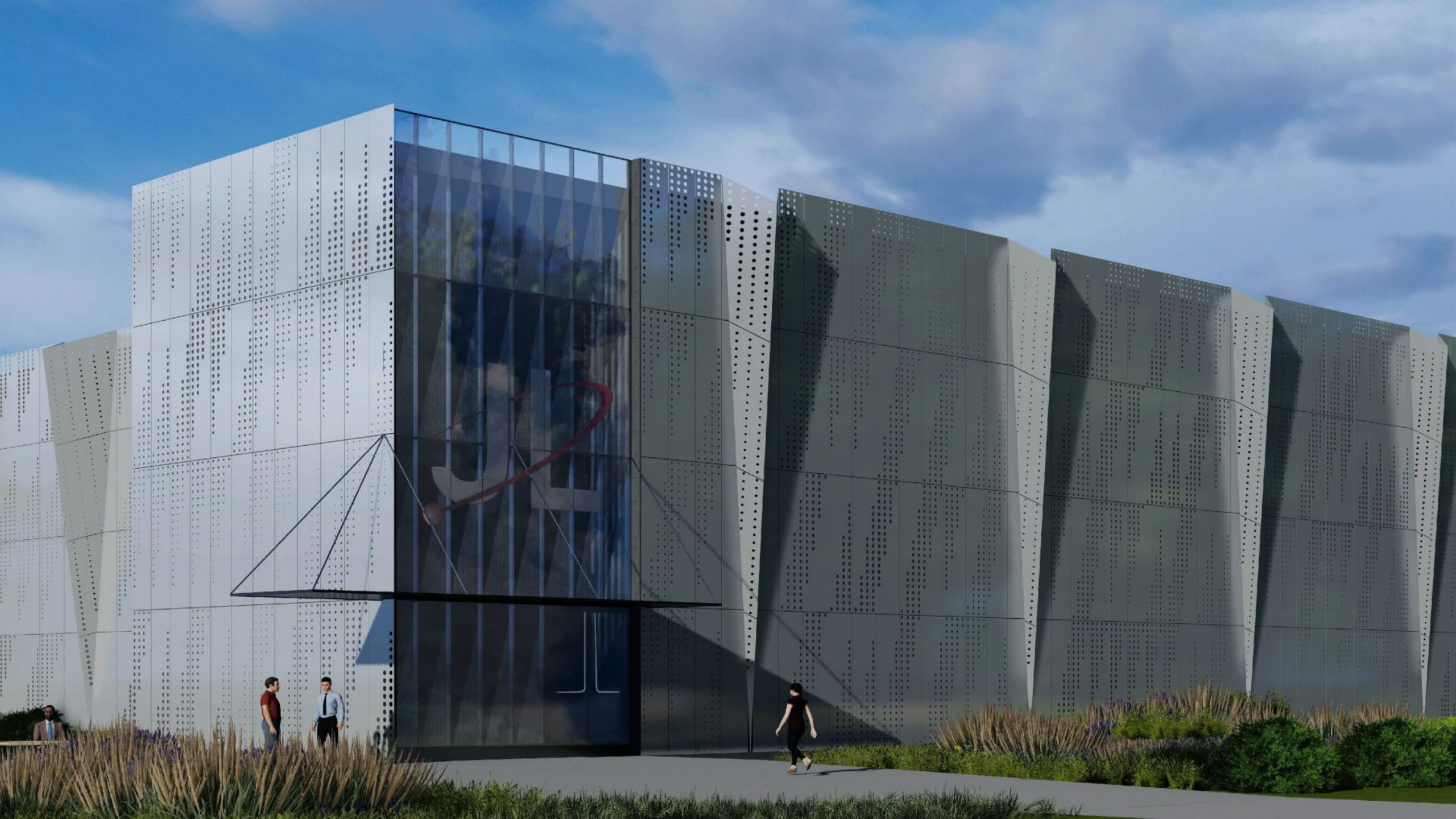
RVA757 Connects and Virginia recognize that investing in rail infrastructure is vital to both the Commonwealth's and the nation's future economic success.

... RVA757connects.com

IGNITING
THE I-64
INNOVATION
CORRIDOR

3

Jefferson Lab High Performance Data Facility Hub





Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan Completed

GIH Strategic Plan



RVA757
connects

Table of Contents

I. Introduction.....	1-2
II. Benefits of Being a Global Internet Hub.....	2-5
III. Situation Review.....	5-9
IV. Strategic Recommendations.....	9-22
V. Funding Resources.....	23-24
VI. Steering Committee.....	25-28
VII. References.....	28

As the President of InterGlobe, I travel the world helping companies and communities develop their digital infrastructure. I thought I had seen everything, but this Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan is a first. This is the first time 60-plus leaders from two neighboring regions have worked together to create a comprehensive strategic plan to become a Global Internet Hub – not as a city, but as a megaregion. Your vision and unprecedented collaboration have already put Virginia's I-64 Innovation Corridor in a growing number of conversations across the globe about emerging Global Internet Hubs.

Vinay Nagpal
President of InterGlobe
Executive Director and Founding Member of IIC

... RVA757connects.com

IGNITING
THE I-64
INNOVATION
CORRIDOR

VIRGINIA'S I-64 INNOVATION CORRIDOR: RICHMOND REGION AND HAMPTON ROADS

The World's Next Global Internet Hub

I-64 INNOVATION CORRIDOR

A handful of locations around the world make the world wide web work. They are called Global Internet Hubs, and all are thriving cities. But this is about to change.

The world's next Global Internet Hub isn't a single city but rather an area from the Richmond region to Hampton Roads, known as the I-64 Innovation Corridor, located just two hours south of Washington, D.C. This 6000 square mile megaregion has a combined population of 3 million-plus residents, placing it among the top 20 largest U.S. regions.

Global Internet Hubs have seven core interrelated components that define their world-class digital infrastructure. As highly collaborative neighboring localities, Richmond and Hampton Roads have all seven of these components and more, putting the I-64 Innovation Corridor on the global interconnection hub map while delivering the fastest, most reliable, and cost-effective digital services to everyone who calls this corner of the world home.

Virginia's I-64 Innovation Corridor Digital Assets	
Data Centers	Innovation Center
Global Internet Exchange	Research Center
Digital Assets	Healthcare Center
Power	Manufacturing Center

The Megaregion's Educational Assets	
Richmond Region	Hampton Roads Region
College	University
Community College	Technical College
High School	Trade School

Megaregion Digital Infrastructure Providers

1 Energy

2 Data Centers in Richmond

4 Data Centers in Hampton Roads

3 Network Centers and Communications Providers

5 Internet Exchange

6 Software-Defined Networking Providers

7 Subsea Cables

RICHMOND REGION

1 Reliability and Sustainable Power

2 Robust Local Terrestrial Networks

3 Internet Exchange (IX)

4 Growing Number of Data Centers

10 Largest Global Internet Hubs

(Defined as Metropolitan Markets for International Internet Bandwidth)

1. Frankfurt
2. Singapore
3. London
4. Amsterdam
5. Paris
6. Hong Kong
7. Marseille
8. Stockholm
9. Miami
10. Vienna

Source: TeleGeography

Subsea Cables Landing at Virginia Beach

Cybersecurity Expertise

The I-64 Innovation Corridor stands as a beacon of cybersecurity expertise, addressing the high stakes of military and defense operations. The megaregion's extensive digital infrastructure, bolstered by a robust talent pool of cybersecurity professionals, is well-positioned to lead the nation in this critical domain. The I-64 Innovation Corridor, one of the nation's premier cybersecurity hubs, is home to the National Security Agency's (NSA) Cyber Operations Center, the NSA's Cyber Operations Center, and the NSA's Cyber Operations Center.

HAMPTON ROADS REGION

6 Network Ring

7 Access to Subsea Cables

8 Subsea Cables, Capable of Handling 100 Tbps

9 Access to Subsea Cables

10 Largest Global Internet Hubs

1

I-64 Gap Fully Funded and the Official Groundbreaking Held!





Stephen C. Brich, P.E.
Commissioner



Director / MIC Member 2022 Survey Findings & Implications

John W. Martin



Survey Response



2022

Total universe / survey invites: **79**

Total Responses: **29**

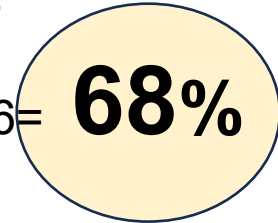
Response Rate: $29/79 =$ **37%**

2023

Total universe / survey invites: **86**

Total Responses: **58**

Response Rate: $58/86 =$ **68%**



Respondents are very satisfied with RVA757 Connects Overall



95%

top two box score – combined “4s” and “5s”

For comparison purposes – 2022 overall performance was 79%

Please rate the **overall performance** of RVA757 Connects in **2023**. Use a 5-point scale where “1” is “did not perform well at all” and “5” is “performed very well.”

“A plus in all ways.”

“Great job! Proud to be part of it.”

“Keep up the good work!”

“Exceptional job growing and developing the programming and the work of RVA757 Connects. Really well done to the team who execute in such a professional manner.”

“I think you all are doing a wonderful job.”

“Amazed by the amount of work accomplished by such a small staff team!”

“You all do a great job, thank you!”

“This is a great group to be a part of.”

“You guys do great work!! Glad to be a partner.”

RVA757 Connects' operational performance is rated high across all areas



Please rate the **operational performance** of RVA757 Connects on several key areas throughout 2023.

Top 2 Box Score
Don't Knows Removed

Organizational management: Running our 501(c)(3). (10% selected "don't know")

98%

Communications related to our organization: Keeping you informed about RVA757 Connects' operations – your contribution, new board members, where to find info, meeting dates, etc. (10% selected "don't know")

95%

Communications related to our cause: Keeping you informed about progress on our priorities and innovations advancing the I-64 Innovation Corridor.

100%

Meetings: Running effective Board/MIC meetings. (9% selected "don't know")

89%

Convergence 2023: Orchestrating our annual meeting with ~~ChamberRVA~~ and Hampton Roads Chamber – Sept. 28 in Williamsburg. (12% selected "don't know")

96%

Funding: Raising the needed operational funds - 31% selected "don't know")

85%

Our Signature Priorities: Advancing RVA757 Connects' signature focus areas – I-64 Gap, Global Internet Hub, Passenger Rail, Bike-Walk Trails, etc. 2% selected "don't know")

98%

Partnerships: Cultivating partnerships with economic development leaders and officials in our priority areas. (5% selected "don't know")

91%

2024 Signature Priorities:

RVA757 Connects' current Board/MIC-approved **signature priorities** are listed below. Please rate your support for our organization advancing these priorities in **2024**. Use a 1 to 5 scale where "1" means "not at all support" and "5" means "very much."

Top 2 Box Score

- | | |
|---|-----|
| a. Make the I-64 Innovation Corridor a Global Internet Hub: RVA757 Connects' Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan has been created. This plan calls for accelerating the development of our megaregion's growing digital infrastructure by building awareness of our digital assets and accelerating collaboration among key digital infrastructure partners and investors. | 97% |
| b. Ensure the I-64 Gap is Fully Funded and Construction Proceeds as Scheduled: Continue to advocate for the I-64 widening. 80% of the needed funding is now in place and construction has started. Make sure this 29-mile widening project stays on track. | 95% |
| c. Support the Four Targeted Industries Identified in the RVA757 Connects Opportunity Study: Help support the economic development agencies in advancing new job growth engines for the future of our Megaregion. These <u>include</u> : Pharma Manufacturing / Life Sciences; Cybersecurity / National Security; Data / Data Analytics, and Transportation / Logistics. These four industries are targeted clusters for both Hampton Roads' and the Richmond region's economic development efforts. | 93% |
| d. Build Awareness and Familiarity Among Key Stakeholders of RVA757 Connects and the I-64 Innovation Corridor: This includes working more closely with all economic development agencies, generating local publicity about our megaregion, and building closer relationships with all of our stakeholders including local, regional, state, and federal officials. | 88% |
| e. Actively Support RVA757 Connects Directors' Initiatives: Support directors' initiatives that have a positive impact on RVA and 757's economies. Two examples include Virginia Natural Gas infrastructure improvements and Dominion Energy's offshore wind initiative. | 71% |
| f. Increase Passenger Rail Service: Increase passenger rail service between the Richmond region and Hampton Roads and to and from these regions to other U.S. cities. This includes supporting the construction of Long Bridge across the Potomac River, eliminating the single biggest bottleneck that limits the growth of rail service in Richmond and Hampton Roads. This also includes advocacy for higher speed rail to Raleigh and spot rail improvements between Richmond and Hampton Roads. | 57% |
| g. Advance Major Bike/Walk Trails: Advance the funding and development of three new bike-walk trails in our megaregion – the BoAT trail (extension of the Virginia Capital Trail from Williamsburg to Virginia Beach), the Eastern Shore Trail, and the Fall Line Trail (Ashland to Petersburg). These long recreational bike/walk trails play an increasingly important role in attracting and retaining young talent. | 52% |



There's strong support for most current Board-MIC approved signature priorities



There's strong support for key topics as listed

2024 Key Topics to Advance:

Please rate your support of our organization in actively advancing these topics in **2024**. Use a 1 to 5 scale where "1" means "not at all support" and "5" means "very much support" RVA757 Connects actively advancing these topics in 2024:

Top 2 Box Score

- | | |
|---|-----|
| a. Support Workforce Development: Talent development at every level is a major component of sustainable economic growth. RVA757 Connects should actively support workforce development issues and initiatives. | 91% |
| b. Showcase Innovation: Showcase innovation across the I-64 Innovation Corridor. Feature innovation stories in our communication materials and on our monthly Innovation Spotlight webinar series. RVA757 Connects should continue to actively showcase innovation. | 81% |
| c. Support Site Readiness: Site readiness is a major push by the Administration's economic development team, investing in building turn-key sites where an expanding or new company can more easily locate and startup operations. RVA757 Connects should actively support site readiness initiatives. | 78% |
| d. Support GO Virginia: GO Virginia is a bipartisan, business-led economic development initiative where business, education, and government collaborate to create more high-paying jobs across the Commonwealth. RVA757 Connects should actively support and promote GO Virginia. | 78% |
| e. Advance the Startup and Entrepreneur Community: RVA757 Connects should start to work with organizations supporting startups and the entrepreneur community in order to speed up the development of a world-class entrepreneurial ecosystem all along the I-64 Innovation Corridor. | 74% |
| f. Foster Greater Collaboration Among Institutions of Higher Education: RVA757 Connects should work more closely with universities and community colleges to speed up collaboration on workforce development and innovation initiatives. | 69% |

Theme: Marketing for the Megaregion is Needed

(But this not part of our charge, nor do we have the funding)



“We should also be marketing the region throughout the United States and internationally.”

“Promoting our region to other parts of the country and internationally to attract investments and talent.”

“We need to continue cultivating our relationship with institutions of higher education to help offset our existing brain drain. Why not bring them together to help create a brand for our region created by our young adults and professionals in an effort to attract and retain that segment of our population?”

“Branding the megaregion.”

“Promote this area as a well-balanced sustainable long-term business growth top choice.”

“Promoting our region to other parts of the country and internationally to attract investments and talent.”

Theme: "Don't Take On Too Much"



"Again, everything covered thus far is solid and comprehensive. We don't need to overextend IMHO."

"We already have a great deal on our plate."

"These are sufficient, especially with the inclusion of workforce."

"Recommend that we do not add anything more at this time."

"None, doing great."

"These are sufficient."

"Focus on the ones listed above."

"I'd rather concentrate on a few large initiatives rather than spread the organization too thin. My top two includes the Global Internet Hub and the I-64 Gap. If we can make progress in these, it will be an effective use of resources."

Findings on "Big Ideas" Are Presented as the Last Topic of This Meeting

Thinking long-term, what else should RVA757 Connects as an organization consider advancing? Please suggest a bold, courageous initiative and topic area that we should consider as a future priority or topic area.

Respondents feel engaged in RVA757 Connects



90%

Top Two Box Score

Please rate your satisfaction with **engagement opportunities** in RVA757 Connects. Use a 5-point scale where “1” is “I am not satisfied at all with the engagement opportunities offered by RVA757 Connects” and “5” is “I am very satisfied with the engagement opportunities offered by RVA757 Connects.”

Ideas tested were not too popular, except a few "meet and greets"

There are several ideas floating around about ways to offer more **engagement** opportunities with RVA757 Connects. Select the areas you would like RVA757 Connects' staff to explore further.

ROTATE

	Mentions	Percent
• Dedicate more time for small group breakout sessions during meetings.	14	24%
• Hold a series of <u>virtual</u> "meet and greets" for small groups of directors and MIC members.	19	33%
• Hold a few <u>in-person</u> "meet and greets" for small groups of directors and MIC members.	35	60%
• Hold an annual golf tournament – RVA teams versus 757 teams. Raise money for a designated charity of the winning team.	10	17%
• Hold an annual social event.	24	41%
• Assign board members to an RVA757 Connects committee.	17	29%



“It would be nice to see the board meet at least one additional time annually for a social function. Could be centered around Harborfest or a large festival in the Richmond area.”

Major events are scheduled for the right times. Convergence format should change.



There are several ideas floating around about changes to our meetings and timing of events. Select the answer that you prefer:

a. Time of day for the monthly Innovation Spotlight webinar (first Wednesday of the month):

	Mentions	Percent
<input type="checkbox"/> 8 – 9 am	14	24%
<input type="checkbox"/> 12 noon – 1 pm (current time)	31	53%
<input type="checkbox"/> 4:30 – 5:30 pm	2	3%
<input type="checkbox"/> No preference	10	17%



b. Time of day for our 3 board/MIC meetings:

	Mentions	Percent
<input type="checkbox"/> 7:30 – 9:30 am	8	14%
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 am – 12 noon (current time)	33	57%
<input type="checkbox"/> 3:30 – 5:30 pm	6	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> No preference	10	17%



c. Convergence (our annual meeting) one full day, but with no evening dinner / program:

	Mentions	Percent
<input type="checkbox"/> All day with dinner and keynote (current approach)	15	33%
<input type="checkbox"/> All day but no dinner and after dinner keynote	34	59%
<input type="checkbox"/> No preference	5	9%



Discussion

On Our 2023 Performance

Update and Regional Partnerships



November 15, 2023

Presented by:



Nancy L. Grden
Hampton Roads
Executive Roundtable
Region 5

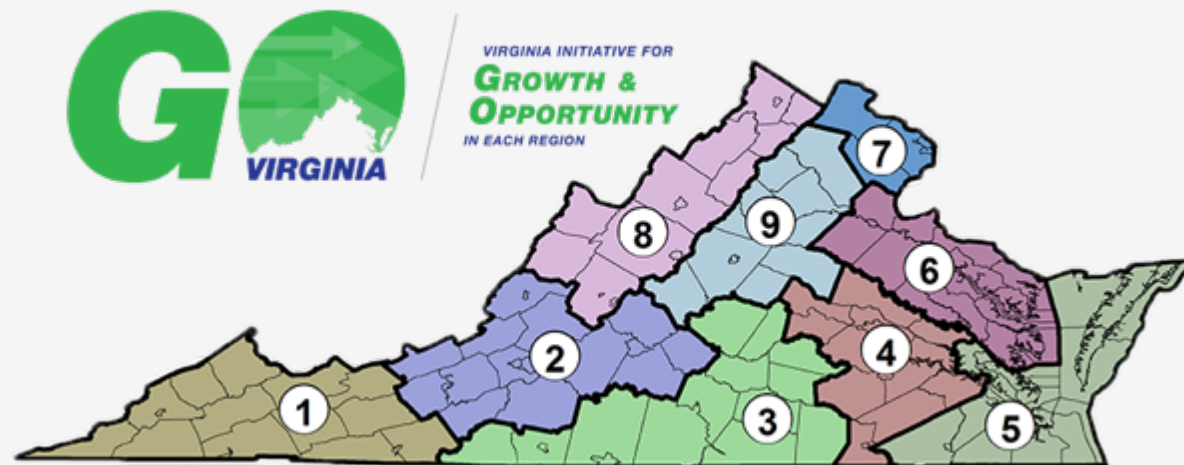


Wilson H. Flohr Jr.
GROW Capital Jobs
Foundation
Region 4

What is GO Virginia?

GO Virginia is a bipartisan, business-led economic development initiative that is changing the way Virginia's diverse regions collaborate on economic and workforce development activities.

This initiative is incentivized and encouraged by the State.



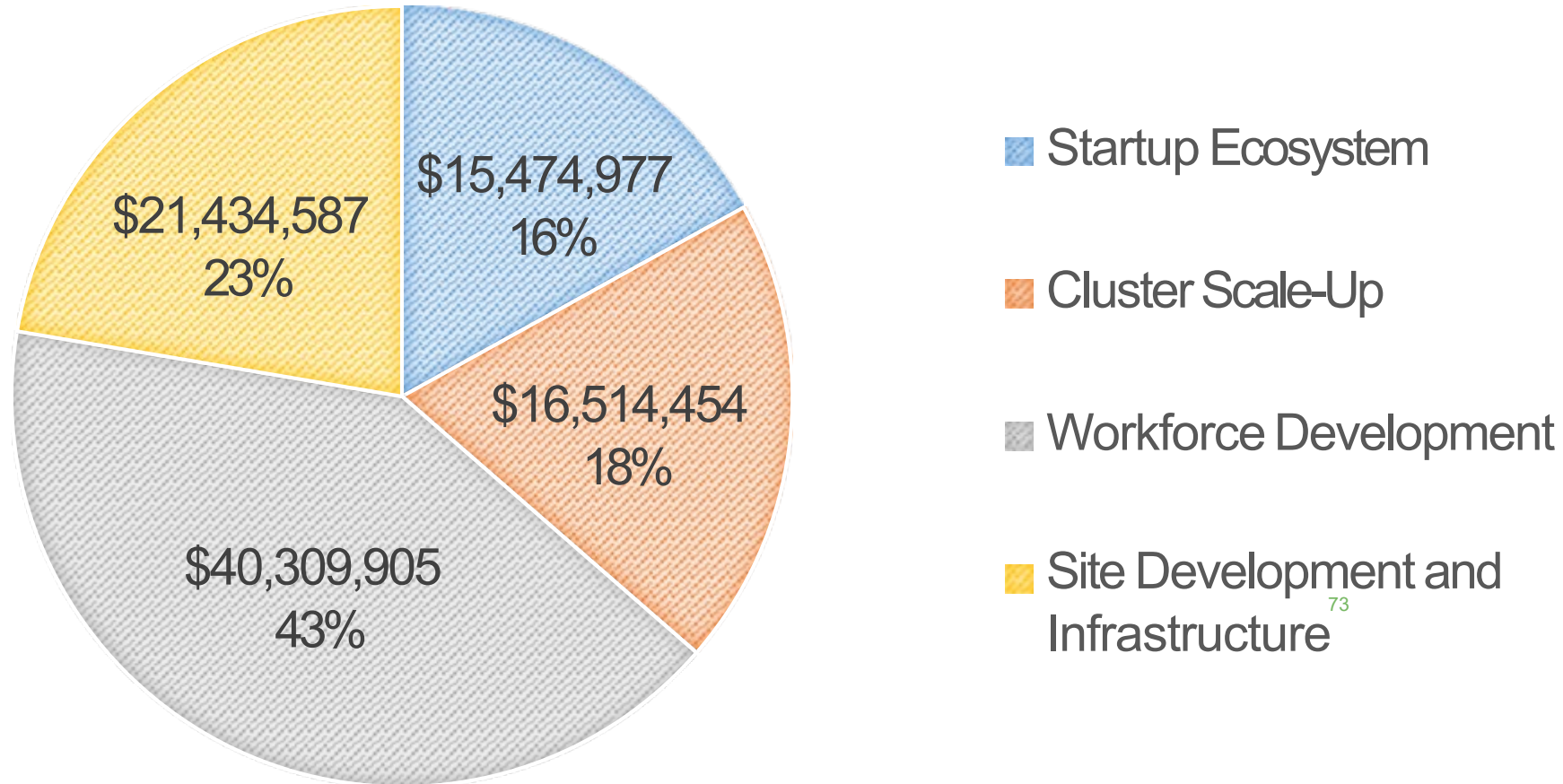


GO VIRGINIA GRANT AWARDS BY INVESTMENT STRATEGY

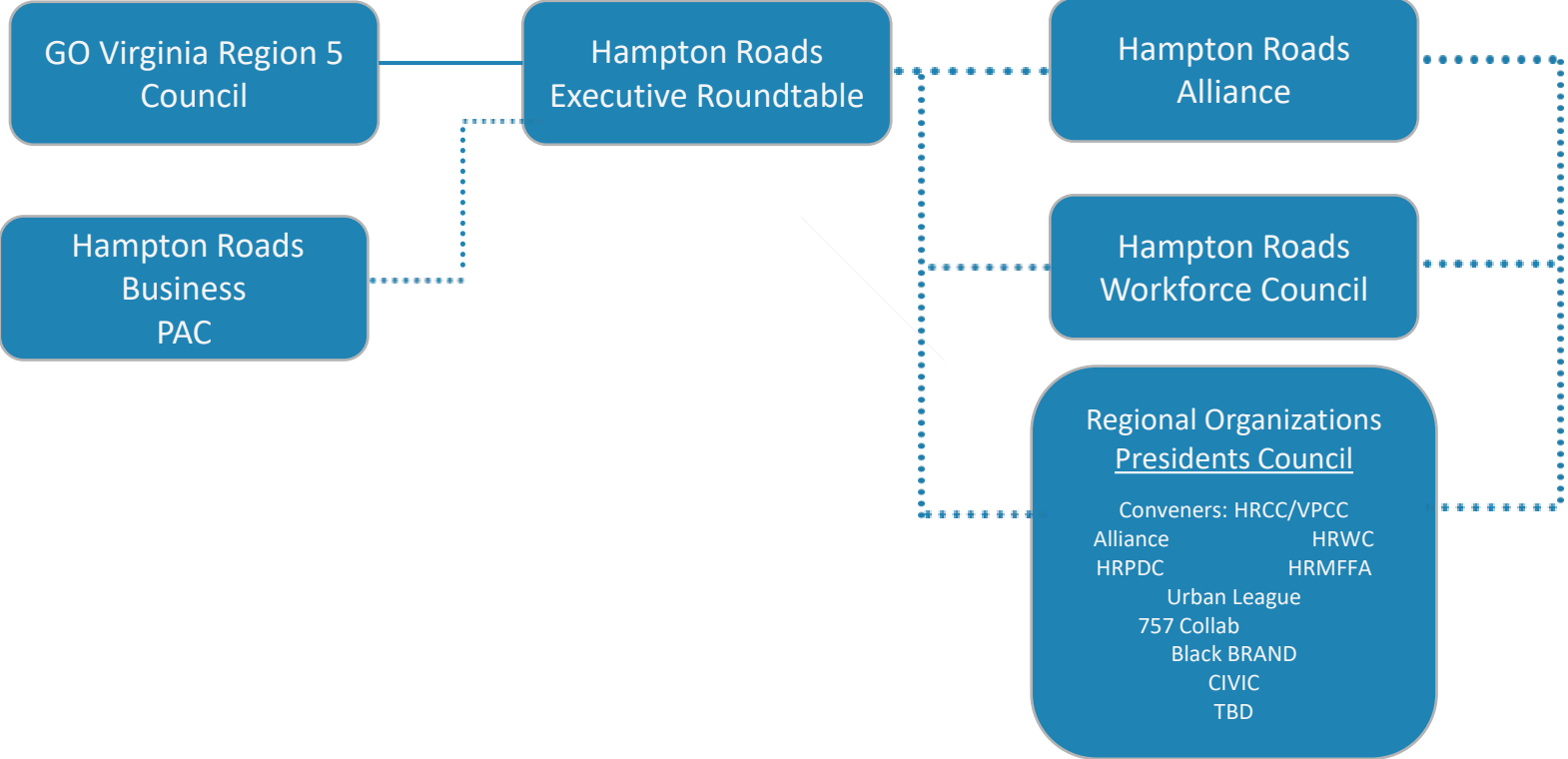


VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
**GROWTH &
OPPORTUNITY**
IN EACH REGION

Total \$93,733,923



Hampton Roads Economic Development Ecosystem



GO Virginia Region 5



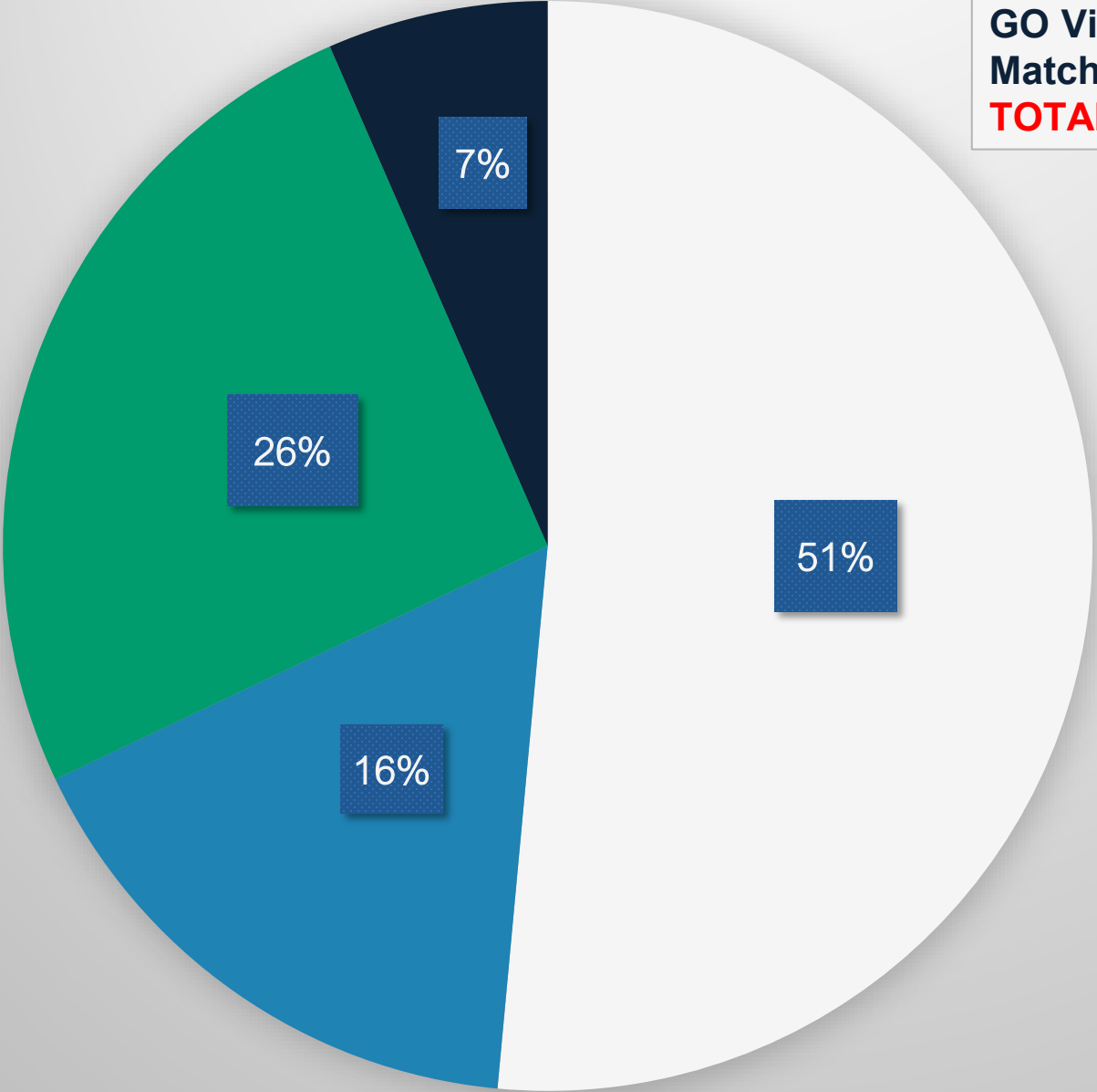
Priority Industry Clusters: 2023 Growth & Diversification Plan

- Port Operations, Logistics, and Warehousing
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Cybersecurity, Data Analytics, and Mod-Sim
- Shipbuilding and Ship Repair
- Water Technologies
- Unmanned Systems and Aerospace
- Clean Energy
- Life Sciences



Region 5: GO Virginia Projects As of November, 2023

GO Virginia Funds: \$19,962,188
Match: \$33,987,279
TOTAL INVESTMENT: \$53,949,467



- Talent Development
\$ 10,274,583
- Start-up Ecosystem
\$ 3,291,240
- Sites & Infrastructure
\$ 5,088,785
- Scale-up
\$ 1,307,580

HAMPTONROADS WORKFORCECOUNCIL

ONE REGION. ONE WORKFORCE. ONE ECONOMY.



Awarded \$11 million, representing 27 localities in Virginia and North Carolina

Hampton Roads ~ Eastern Shore ~ NE North Carolina





COLLAB

**Lead Organization: “757 ScaleUp Alliance”
Wins \$1.2M EDA “Build to Scale” Award**

- **Black BRAND**
 - **SBDC**
- **InnoVAteHR**

Hampton Roads Long-Term Energy Roadmap



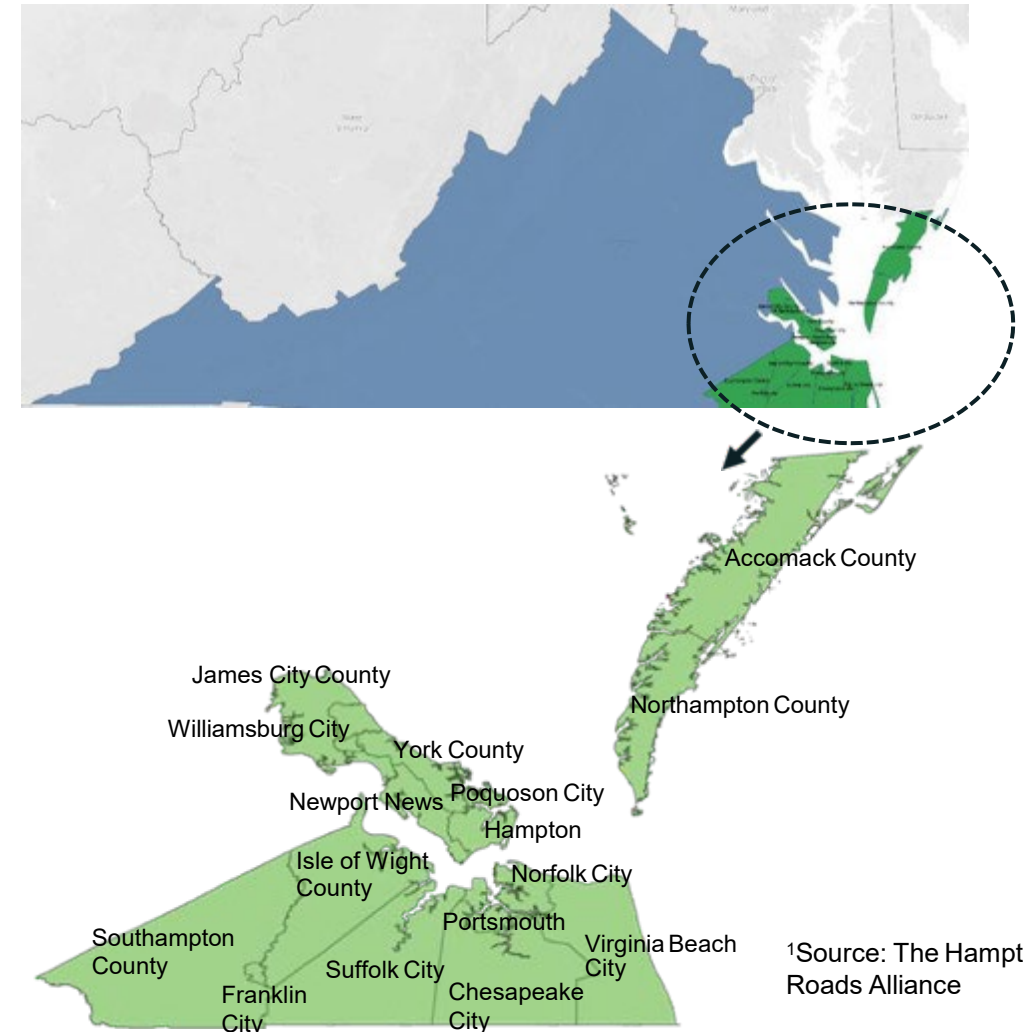
Roadmap Overview

Phase 1: Assess current energy supply and demand

Phase 2: Assess future energy supply and demand

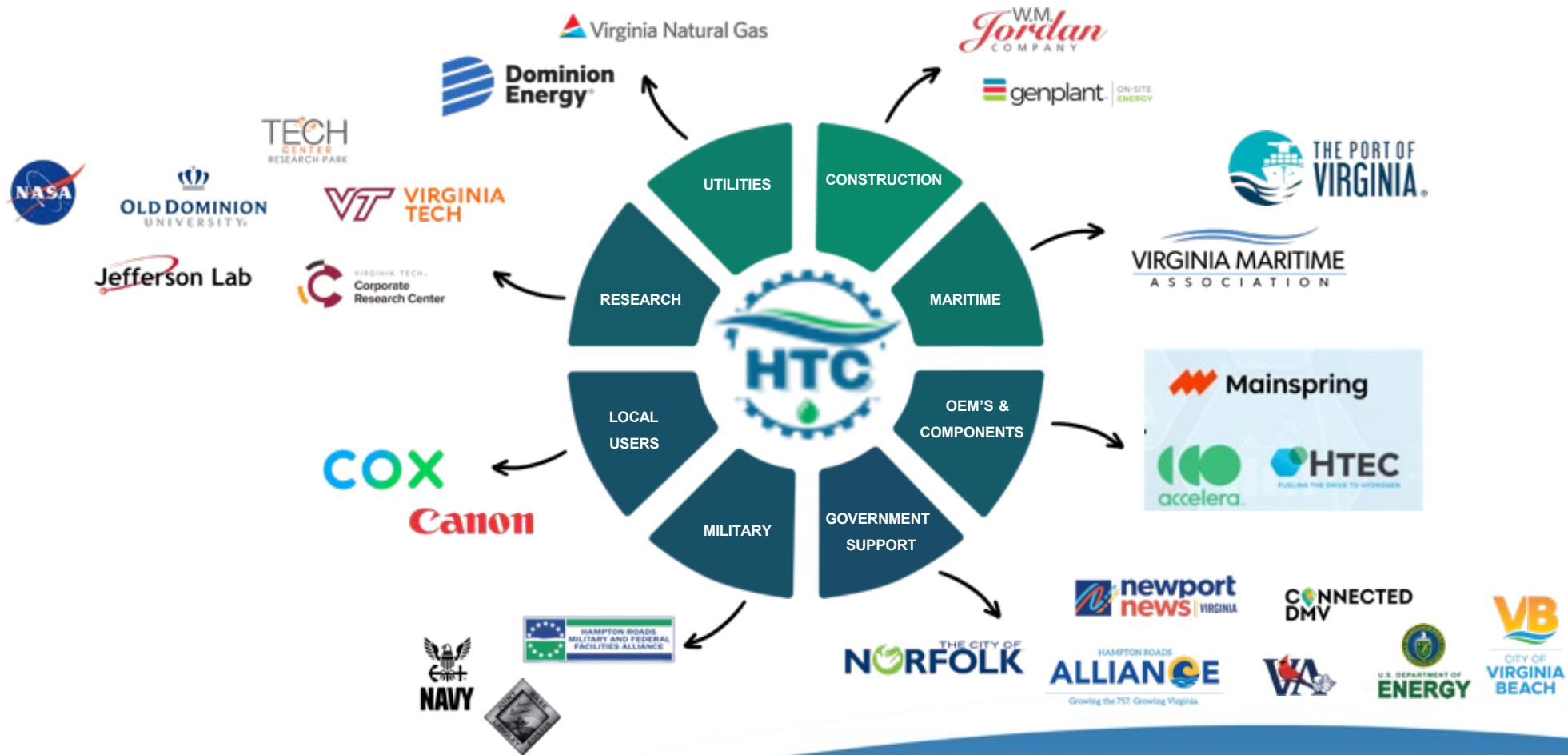
Phase 3: Develop Energy Roadmap with clear actions to achieve regional energy goals

Hampton Roads Geographic Overview¹



¹Source: The Hampton Roads Alliance

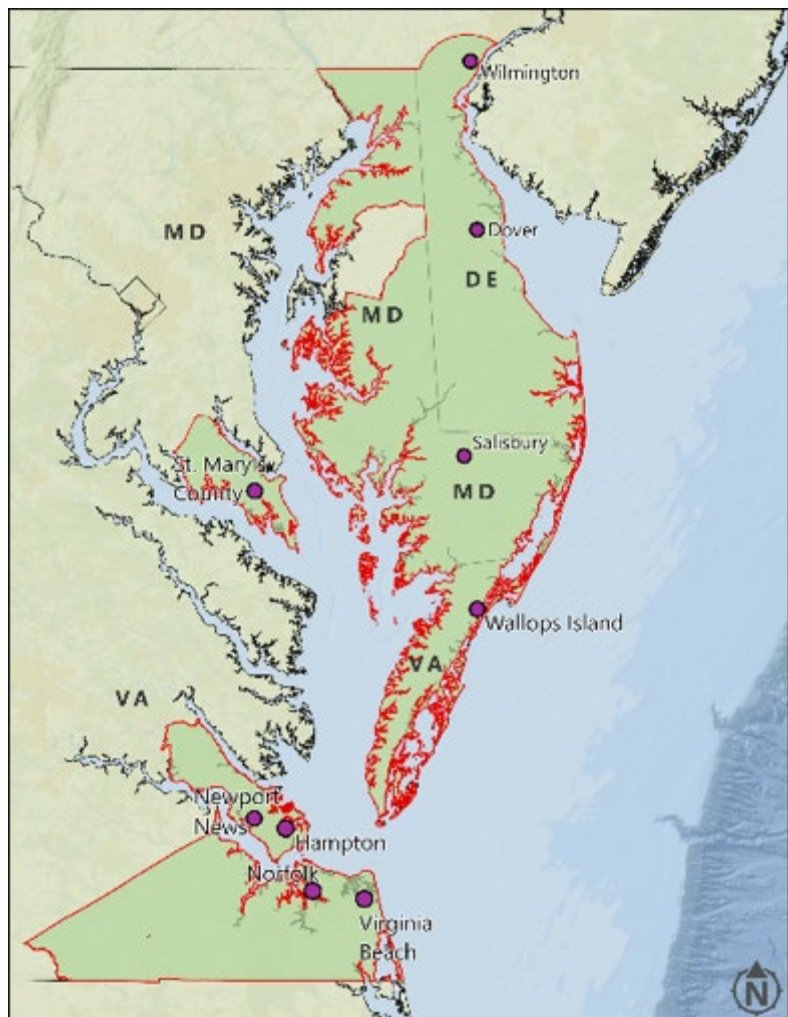
Mapping Local Green Hydrogen Infrastructure & Roles





NEXUS: National Excellence in Uncrewed Systems

Air, Land, Sea, Space and Digital Tech Hub



Geography:

- Hampton Roads/Delmarva region surrounding the Chesapeake Bay: VA's Hampton Roads and Eastern Shore, DE, and Southern MD and Eastern Shore

Consortium Organization:

- Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable as applicant
- 23-member strategy group
- 100+partners from industry, economic development, community non-profits, entrepreneurship programs, higher education, and local, state, federal partners (Navy, NASA, JLab included)

Region 4 and Region 5 Collaboration

Life Sciences Virginia



I-64
INNOVATION
CORRIDOR

The logo for the I-64 Innovation Corridor features the text "I-64 INNOVATION CORRIDOR" in a sans-serif font. "I-64" is in dark blue, "INNOVATION" is in a lighter blue with the "O" in orange, and "CORRIDOR" is in dark blue. A thick orange curved line arches over the text from the left side.

Jefferson Lab

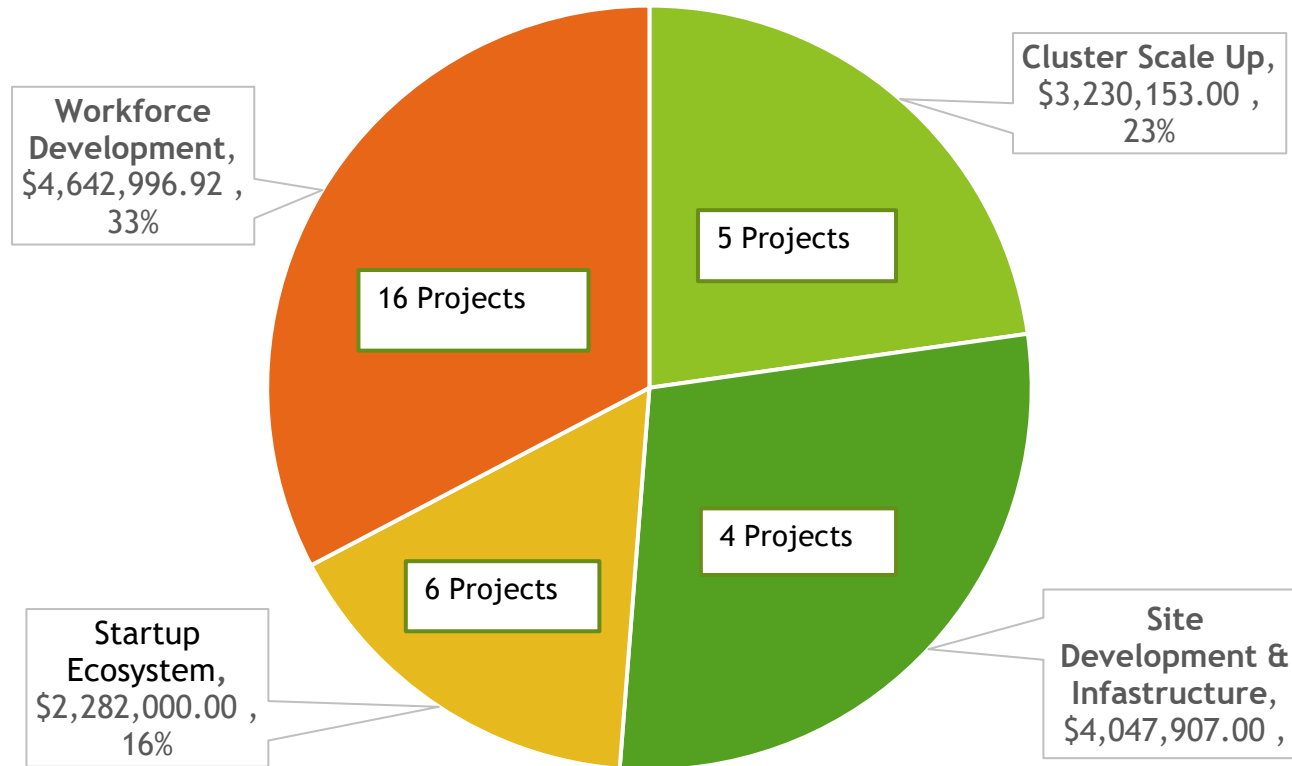
The logo for Jefferson Lab features the text "Jefferson Lab" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A red curved line with a small red circle at its end arches over the text from the left side.

Industry Cluster/ScaleUp

**Crater Planning District Commission
Richmond Region Planning District Commission**

Industry Clusters

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Life/Bio Sciences
- Logistics
- Entrepreneurial and Innovation
- Controlled Environmental Agriculture (emerging)



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

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Scale-Up

- Creating and onshoring Generic Medicines
- Alliance for Better Medicines - A program of Activation Capital
- \$52.9M - Build Back Better Grant
- Civica Rx, Phlow, Ampac Fine Chemicals

Federation of Advanced Manufacturing Education (FAME)

- Sixteen (16) manufacturing companies
- Richard Bland College
- Three (3) days paid internships
- Two (2) days college studies

Virginia Gateway Region Site Development

- Fifteen (15) sites advancing to Tier 4
- Manufacturing, Logistics, Data Centers

Virginia Bio Connect

- Five (5) participating GO Virginia regions
- Building and creating internships
- Building the Life Science Cluster

Potential Joint Projects with Region 5

- Entrepreneurial
- Jefferson Labs
- Global Internet Hub
- Life Sciences (implementation from pilot program)

Questions?

THANK YOU!



Wilson H. Flohr Jr.



GO Virginia Region 4

804-788-5824



Wilson@growcapitaljobs.org



Nancy L. Grden



GO Virginia Region 5

757-572-6089



ngrden@roundtablehr.org



What's Next for RVA757 Connects?

Taking the I-64 Innovation Corridor to the Next Level.



I-64
INNOVATION
CORRIDOR

Goal for Our Conversation



The Executive Committee is putting together
RVA757 Connects' 2024 Annual Plan.

We need to plan for both the short- and long-term.
Today, we are seeking the Board's / MIC members' input on
our long-term horizon – *where should we be headed?*

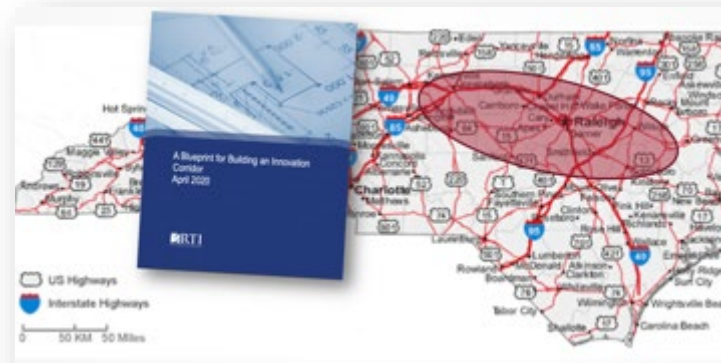
The next 5 minutes will provide some structure for this conversation . . .

Innovation Corridors & Megaregions

Florida High Tech Corridor



N.C. Innovation Corridor



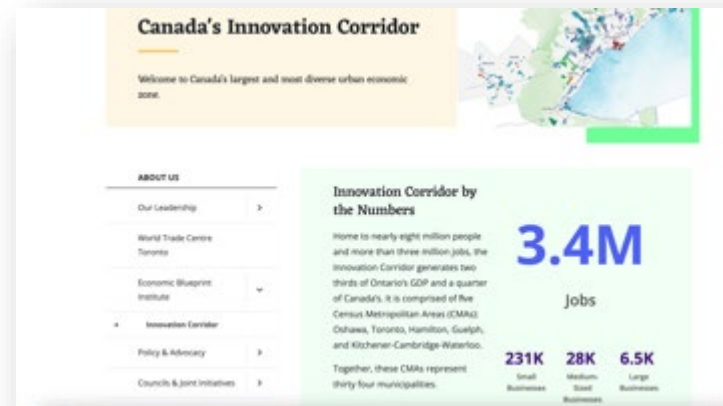
Georgia Innovation Corridor



Tenn. Valley Corridor



Canada's Innovation Corridor



Cascadia Innovation Corridor



Up Next – July 2023



San Antonio Express-News

NEWS

The San Antonio–Austin mega-metro is coming. What does it mean?

The San Antonio–Austin mega-metro may be closer to reality than we thought.

By [Chris O'Connell](#) July 23, 2023



The mega-metro will span heavily on I-35

In 1971, the area of North Texas that encompasses Dallas, Fort Worth, Arlington, and the like, didn't have a unified identity, at least not an official one.

The grouping of cities up at the top of Texas were organized under the banner of the North Texas Commission as the DFW Airport was being built, and the syndicate wanted a way to put forth that

Our Purpose

Improve the economic success and quality of life for everyone in the RVA and 757 regions.

Our Mission

We identify, support, and advance major opportunities, initiatives, and projects that will meaningfully benefit our communities for generations to come.

RVA757 Connects' Current Priorities



- ~~1. Advocate for I-64 widening (29-mile gap from RIC to Williamsburg).~~
2. Help the I-64 Innovation Corridor become a Global Internet Hub.
3. Support the extension of the Virginia Capital Trail.
4. Increase passenger rail service between and to/from Richmond and Hampton Roads.
5. Support directors' and members' initiatives (VNG capacity expansion, Dominion Energy's offshore wind, Jefferson Lab).
6. Support job-growing clusters.

Help Advance Our Unique Growing Clusters



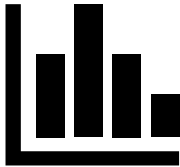
- The 4 most promising unique, job-generating industry clusters include:



**Transportation,
Logistics, and
Supply Chain**



**National
Security and
Cybersecurity**

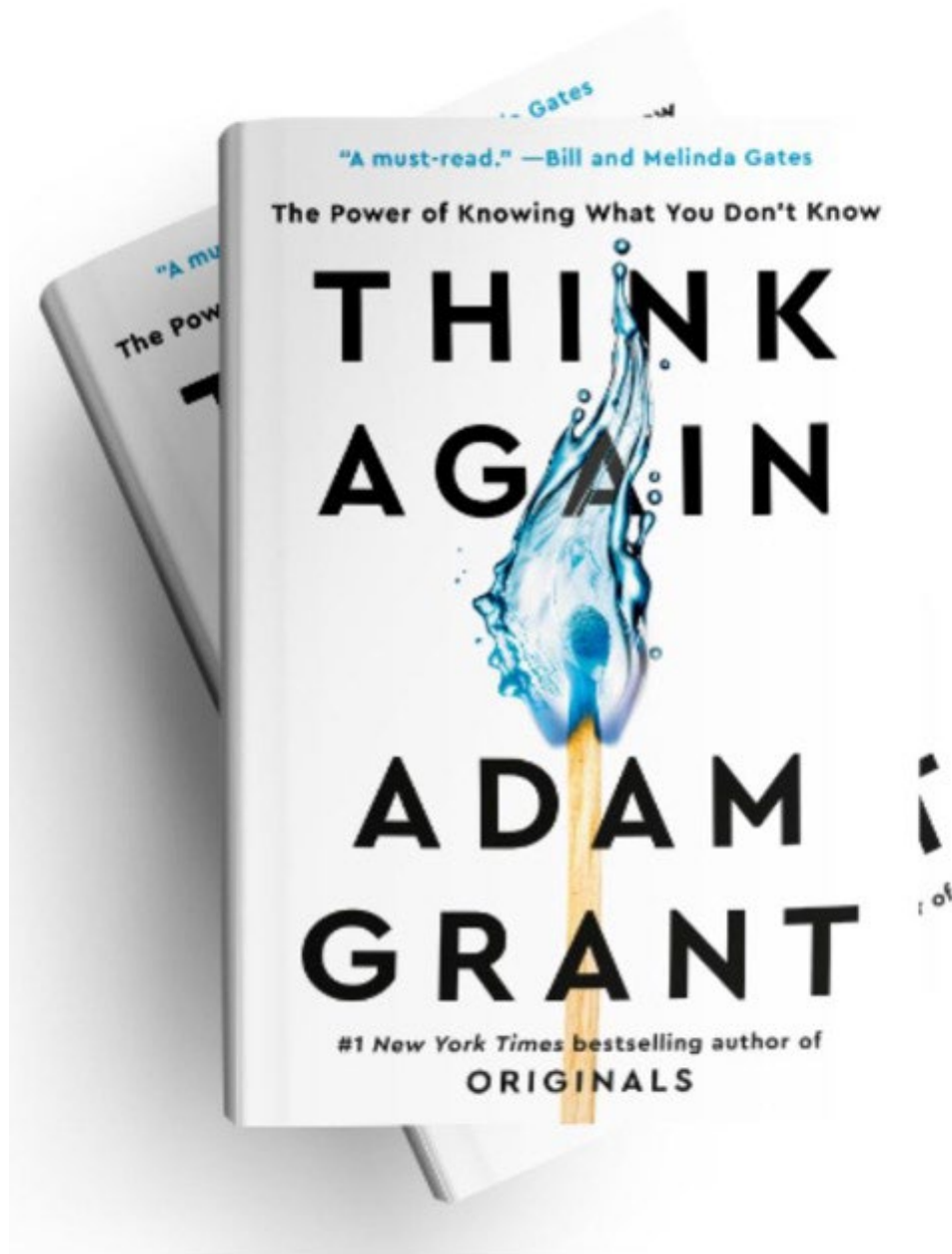


**Data Centers, IT,
and Digital
Networks**



**Pharma
Manufacturing
and Life Sciences**

*Unique = Richmond and Hampton Roads have a competitive workforce availability advantage over other regions (promising LQ rating).



Think Again
about our assumptions
as we discuss where
RVA757 Connects
should focus next.

Inputs from Our Survey

Our Recent Wins

Our Geographic Footprint

Transcendent Trends

Should We Have a BHAG?

Survey Inputs

Findings on "Big Ideas" Are Presented in Last Topic of This Meeting

Thinking long-term, what else should RVA757 Connects as an organization consider advancing? Please suggest a bold, courageous initiative and topic area that we should consider as a future priority or topic area.

Entertainment / Creative

“With our focus on creating an Innovation Corridor, we may be able to incorporate focusing on advancing the creative aspect of some of our past and current entertainment talent that leverages technology as an additional layer.”

Build an arena

“RVA757 should get behind a plan to have a 15,000 to 18,000-seat arena built in Norfolk (Military Circle Site) and/or Richmond downtown. This initiative would also attract young talent to our megaregion.”

Build a tech park

“Building a Digital/Technology/Innovation park where companies, government, universities, and investors can jointly innovate, collaborate, and develop the culture of the next generation Silicon Valley. Attracting a couple of anchor tech companies can serve as catalysts.”

Internship / apprenticeship infrastructure

“Region becomes a national leader in internship/apprenticeship infrastructure to meet business needs and attract and retain talent.”

Healthcare

“Implementing innovative, competitive, high quality, and affordable improvements in healthcare for all Virginians. The healthcare and long-term care needs and costs of aging Virginians will crowd out funding for many other important initiatives for RVA757. Across the country, total unfunded entitlement costs, which are funded under a pay-as-you-go regime, are more than \$100 trillion. Virginia’s share of the \$100 trillion will need to be paid by payroll or other taxes by current taxpayers, and their children and grandchildren. We have significantly overpromised benefits and dramatically underfunded the costs of entitlements. It is a 100% certainty that Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and Veteran’s Administration Healthcare will all be bankrupt by 2035 without major changes. Keep in mind that 10,000 Americans will turn 65 every day for the next decade, and the number of 85-plus-year-olds will triple over the next 25 years.”

The "Airports"

Begin a dialogue regarding more collaboration among our airport operators.”

Hampton Roads needs continued investment in the Norfolk airport and Richmond airport is also under-utilized.”

“Working across the two regions to consolidate the Newport News/Williamsburg airport into Richmond International so that Richmond will have more opportunities to grow carriers and routes. Perhaps the same outcome would occur with Norfolk International.”

“Help improve airports with a megaregion approach.”

Early Childhood Education

“Early literacy and EVERY child in Virginia reading proficiently by third grade. It is a big problem that must be solved.”

“Education!! Too many students cannot read by third grade in our state and local communities. By third grade, if a child is not reading on grade level, they are four times more likely not to graduate from high school. They will struggle in K-12, college, career, and life. When a child cannot read, they cannot learn. That affects us all. It is an economic and workforce development issue. We need business leaders to rally around this.”

Affordable Housing

“In both RVA757 and GO Virginia, issues related to the urban cities are under-addressed: this is a major shortcoming that should be examined.”
“Affordable housing”

“Generating the private sector support to counteract NIMBYism involved in trying to address housing.”
“See "Friends of JLab" future initiatives mentioned earlier.”

High-Speed Rail

“A high-speed train linking Hampton Roads, Richmond, and D.C.”

Global Internet Hub and Jefferson Lab's HPDF

“Evaluate what is the next iteration of being a Global Internet Hub...Jeff Lab's data center impact...jobs of the future and the training for them.”
“Innovation symposium with I-64 innovative companies focused on future (for example, AI, autonomous vehicles, etc.).”

“Greater collaboration between companies and JLab and its new High Performance Data Facility.”
“Building off the JLab supercomputing facility.”

“With the recent announcement of Jefferson Labs being awarded the High Performance Data Facility Hub and the transformational capabilities for data analysis, networking, and storage for the nation’s research enterprise we need to capitalize on this to strengthen both regions. There is no playbook on how far we can take this opportunity and we need brilliant minds from both regions to discuss how we can take full advantage and use this as a springboard to create sustainability for our economy in both regions for years to come.”

Our Recent Wins

Jefferson Lab HPDF Win



Digital Infrastructure

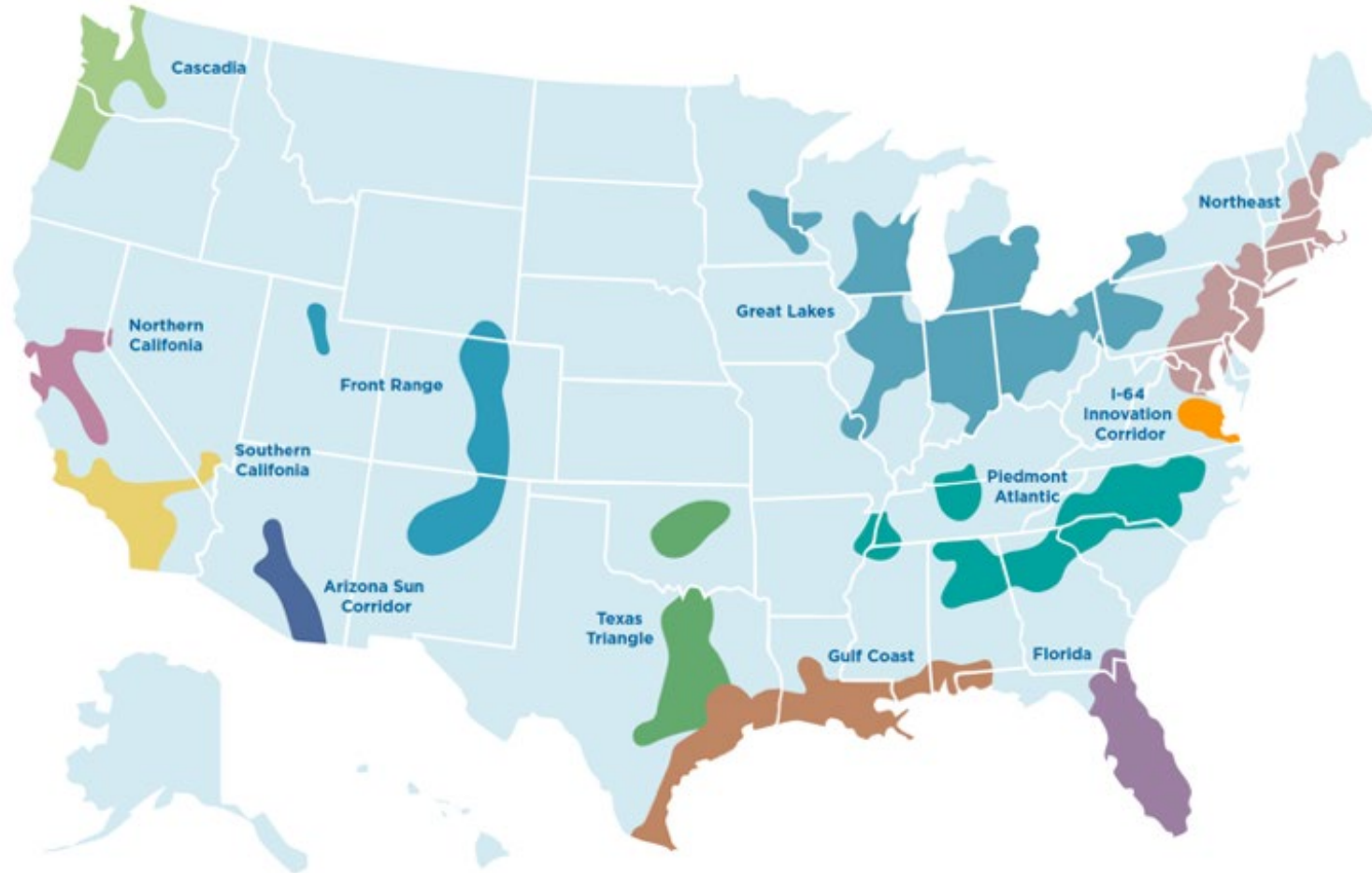


We are behind with IT/Tech

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	Total Tech Jobs 2022	10 Year Annual Tech Job Growth	Average 2022 Tech Job Wages	10 Year Worker Productivity Growth	10-Year GDP Growth (All Industries)
Mature Digital Infrastructure MSAs*		7.6% Avg.	\$116,233 Avg.	33.5% Avg.	64.6% Avg.
Denver, Seattle, Atlanta, Jacksonville, Portland					
RVA & 757's Direct Competitors**		7.3%. Avg.	\$103,473 Avg.	30.0% Avg.	56.8% Avg.
11 regions from Jacksonville to Nashville to Raleigh					
USA – Total	5,850,692	6.4%	\$111,800	31%	47.4%
I-64 Innovation Corridor		4.4% Avg.	\$105,900 Avg.	24.5 % Avg.	33.0% Avg.
Richmond	24,900	4.6%	\$107,900	26%	39.9%
Virginia Beach/Norfolk	25,879	4.1%	\$103,900	23%	26.7%

Our Footprint

Our Future Footprint



1. Status quo
2. Extend our Virginia footprint
3. Join others Northeast or Piedmont





[LAUNCH](#)

[SPACE SYSTEMS](#)

[ABOUT](#)

[MISSIONS](#)

[CAREERS](#)

[INVESTORS](#)

[NEWS](#)

[BOOK MY LAUNCH](#)

LAUNCH WITH US

FREQUENT AND RELIABLE ACCESS TO SPACE ON YOUR TERMS



ABOUT NEWS CONNECT

IMPACT NETWORK EVENTS CVILLE PARTNERS CAREERS

Strengthening the biotech community

MEET THE BIOHUB



Charlottesville BioHub amplifies a vibrant and expansive biotechnology industry cluster in Charlottesville, home to more than 75 companies at the forefront of advancing human health and innovation.



Advancing Inclusive Growth

Across the Capital Region,
from Baltimore to Richmond.

Transcendent Trends

Consider these mega facts:



- U.S. population will grow by 67 million in the next 30 years.
- 88% of that growth in the U.S. megaregions ... 80% of Virginia's growth will be in the Golden Crescent.
- By 2050, country's share of people 65+ will reach 22% (14% today).
- This workforce shortage gap is projected to grow over the next 10 years – shortage of 10M.
- Younger age segments are less healthy than older cohorts at the same age.
- By 2045, the U.S. population will be predominantly non-white, requiring attention to growing racial and economic inequality.
- Throw in climate change and sea level rise.
- These are MEGA issues . . .

A BHAG*

Should we have one?

*Jim Collins: Big Harry Audacious Goal

Successful Megaregion Design is All About Intentionality

Cascadia Megaregion

Portland – Seattle – Vancouver

- Recently released 400-page **business case** for the project. **\$900K report** was funded equally between all three jurisdictions and Microsoft.
- Speeds of up to **220 miles per hour**. Travel times: 47 minutes from Vancouver to Seattle.
- The capital cost of building the system would range from **\$24 billion to \$42 billion**.
- **By 2055, annual \$300 million fare revenues** will cover annual operating costs.



“My vision for the megaregion – stretching from Washington, north to British Columbia, and south to Oregon – includes a transportation system that is fast, frequent, reliable, and environmentally responsible. Such a system would unite us in our common goals related to economic development, shared resources, affordable housing, new jobs, tourism, multimodal connections, and increased collaboration.”

Governor Jay Inslee
Washington State

75+ Communities Are “Blue Zones”



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Blue Zones website. At the top, there is a light blue navigation bar with a 'SIGN UP' button (encompassing an envelope icon), the text 'SUBSCRIBE TO THE FREE BLUE ZONES NEWSLETTER', a search icon, and social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Below this is a dark blue navigation bar with 'Shop', 'Our Story', the 'BLUE ZONES' logo, 'Learn & Discover', and 'What We Do'. The main content area features a background image of a coastal landscape with blue water and a rocky island. The text 'We Empower Everyone, Everywhere To' is centered above the large, bold headline 'LIVE BETTER, LONGER™'. At the bottom of the main content area, there are two blue buttons with white text and right-pointing arrows: 'TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE' and 'TRANSFORM YOUR COMMUNITY'.

*“Just the notion of a **megaregion** is in itself a **Big Idea!** RVA757 Connects has already, in our short time of existence, accomplished more than I thought possible!”*

Our Conversation About Tomorrow

Inputs	Assumptions
2023 Survey Inputs	Healthcare, airports, early childhood, affordable housing, high-speed rail, entertainment / venue, tech park, etc.
Our Geographic Footprint	Status quo, Virginia intra-state expansion, or interstate expansion (North-South-Both?)
Transcendent Trends	Health, population growth, aging population, workforce shortage, diversity, climate
Recent Wins/Opportunities	Jefferson Lab and Global Internet Hub
A BHAG: Should we have one?	Example: Blue Zone the I-64 Innovation Corridor as our BHAG



Closing Remarks

Tom Frantz

Co-Chair, RVA757 Connects





**What we're
all about . . .**

Convene

Connect

Collaborate

Innovate

Grow

Let's Continue to Connect and Engage



2024 Board-MIC Meetings

- **Feb 21, 2024:** 10 a.m. – noon (virtual)
- **April 24, 2024:** 10 a.m. – noon (virtual)
- **Sept. 26, 2024:** Convergence 2024 – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Williamsburg
- **Nov. 20, 2024:** 10 a.m. – noon (virtual)

We are coordinating 2024 schedules with 5 Chambers, 2 PDCs and the roundtables.

Next Virtual Innovation Spotlight:



ROCKETLAB

Taking off on Virginia's Eastern Shore

Wednesday December 6, 2023
Noon to 1 p.m.





**We're
Adjourned**

