

THOMAS JEFFERSON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Quarterly Update on Projects and Activities April through June 2026



Environmental

Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP): The TJPDC, pursuant to a contract with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), collaborates with DEQ and other partners to provide educational resources and technical assistance related to the WIP to the local governments of Albemarle, Charlottesville, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson and regional stakeholders, in an effort to reduce loads of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL.

- The TJPDC has been partnering with the Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District, the City of Charlottesville, and the James River Association to host rain barrel workshops across the PDC. At each workshop, 15 rain barrels are distributed, and participants are provided with kits to install barrels at home. Fall workshops are scheduled in Albemarle, Fluvanna, Charlottesville, Louisa, and Greene.
- The quarterly Regional Environmental Coordination meeting in May featured shared knowledge and partnerships among local staff. Highlights included a presentation on Green Infrastructure Technical Assistance and Planning for Towns from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, as well as a roundtable discussion.
- Staff continues to share information via the TJPDC website, as well as on the Rivanna River Basin Commission Facebook page, about funding opportunities, best management practices, and upcoming events to support local water quality.

Solid Waste Plan (SWP): The TJPDC provides oversight and management of the Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Planning Unit (TJ-SWPU). The TJ-SWPU is responsible for developing and maintaining a five-year regional solid waste management plan that meets the requirements set forth in [§ 10.1-1411](#). Current members of the TJ-SWPU include the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, and Greene. As part of the solid waste planning efforts, the PDC also conducts the annual Recycling Rate Reporting assessment, an annual report to the state used to ensure that the TJ-SWPU meets the state mandated minimum recycling rate of 25% on an annual basis.

- Staff continued convening Technical Advisory Committee meetings to support the update of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, which is due to DEQ in October. The final committee meeting, scheduled for July, will present the draft plan for review prior to its release for public comment. Presentations to participating local governing bodies are scheduled for August and September.
- Staff collected recycling and solid waste data from localities across the region to prepare the annual Recycling Rate Report on behalf of the Solid Waste Planning Unit (SWPU). The report was submitted to DEQ with a reported regional recycling rate of **39%**.

Regional Water Supply Planning: In October 2024, in response to legislation approved by the General Assembly, new state regulations took effect to require a regional approach to water supply planning. TJPDC is coordinating this effort for the Middle James 1 watershed, which includes the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Greene, and Louisa.

- The TJPDC was awarded an additional \$9,420 in FY26 state funding by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the Middle James 1 Regional Planning Unit (RPU) to continue the water supply planning process for the region. This money has been used to conduct locality meetings to discuss data needs and to coordinate with DEQ.
- TJPDC has organized a resource sharing site and a public facing website for the planning process and is beginning its stakeholder engagement process regarding development of a scope of work for the planning process.

Housing

PDC Housing Development Program: In 2021, the TJPDC was awarded \$2 million from Virginia Housing to collaborate with community partners to develop 20 new housing units in the TJPDC region. This was part of \$40 million committed to the 21 Virginia PDCs for new housing initiatives.

- The TJPDC is administering funding for affordable housing development in all member localities with Habitats for Humanity of Greater Charlottesville, Fluvanna, and Piedmont, as well as with SupportWorks Housing, the Fluvanna-Louisa Housing Foundation (FLHF), and the Nelson County Community Development Foundation (NCCDF). A total of \$1.8 million is being leveraged to develop new affordable housing units. TJPDC has completed 45 units across Albemarle, Charlottesville, Fluvanna, Louisa, and Nelson. Four units (two sets of duplexes) have been completed in the second quarter of 2026 by FLHF and NCCDF using TJPDC grant funding.
- All \$1.8 million in program funds have been allocated and spent on affordable housing units. Three partner organizations (FLHF, NCCDF and SupportWorks Housing) have had their construction timelines extended through 2026. FLHF and NCCDF have now finished construction and SupportWorks Housing is on track to complete its Vista 29 supportive housing units by December.

Central Virginia Regional Housing Partnership (CVRHP): The TJPDC has been partnering in recent years with all the region's localities, as well as the private and nonprofit sectors, as part of the CVRHP. It serves as an official advisory board to the TJPDC charged with enhancing regional coordination and effectiveness in addressing the unmet housing needs in the region.

- CVRHP restarted its Speaker Series to bring together thought leaders, policy experts, and practitioners to share insights on housing trends, projections, and funding opportunities. At the June CVRHP meeting, Dianna Bowser and Jim Chambers from the Southside Community Development & Housing Corporation, an organization building housing and offering a pathway to homeownership to residents in southside Virginia, gave a presentation on their history and work.
- CVRHP's Central Housing Hub is live and ready for engagement. This SharePoint site is designed to be our primary platform for sharing information, collecting insights, and promoting collaboration across the region. Click [here](#) to request access.
- **Regional Housing Study:** TJPDC is partnering with the Virginia Center for Housing Research and HousingForward Virginia to complete a two-year process that will produce a Needs Assessment and Strategies to address both local and regional housing needs. The research team is finalizing the first drafts of the needs assessment, literature review, and inventory of existing resources, while partnering with localities to develop strategic interventions across the region. A final version of the study will be available to the public in early 2027.

Thomas Jefferson HOME Consortium: TJPDC is the administrator for the first regional HOME Investment Partnership Consortium in Virginia. This program provides annual entitlement funding through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for housing rehabilitation, down-payment

assistance, or new construction for qualifying households in all localities in the region.

- The HOME Consortium has been awarded a total of \$687,009 for the region for the program year that began on July 1, 2025. These funds are being used to repair low-income owner homes, develop low-income rental housing, and provide direct assistance.
- Four new HOME and HOME-ARP funded rental units in Louisa and Nelson counties were completed this quarter, and residents have been placed.
- The Annual Action Plan for the coming year that begins on July 1, 2026, has been submitted to HUD.

Housing Preservation Grant (HPG): TJPDC annually receives these funds that are an important supplement to the HOME program, providing additional dollars for rehabilitation projects in the counties of Albemarle (eligible rural areas), Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson.

- TJPDC recently closed out its FFY23 Housing Preservation Program with USDA Rural Development, during which it served 55 households with \$174,196 in funds for home repairs.
- TJPDC has been awarded an additional \$73,281 in grant funding through the FFY25 award. All funding has been committed for the FFY25 grant and work is underway on 18 projects, 12 of which have been completed. Work through the FFY24 grant is winding down across 35 projects totaling \$109,090 in funds for home repairs in rural localities.

Legislative Services

Legislative Services Program: This long-standing program represents the interests and positions of the region's localities with state policymakers, producing a regional legislative program and advocating for locally requested bills and budget amendments during the annual General Assembly session.

- The Director of Legislative Services monitored the General Assembly's April reconvened session, as well as discussions in June related to the ongoing budget stalemate and eventual compromise.
- The General Assembly Final Report highlighting action taken on legislation at the 2026 legislative session was completed. This document highlights various items of interest to local governments by bill topic area. The report was distributed by e-mail and posted on the TJPDC website.
- Staff also attended or monitored various meetings related to particular legislative and budget/finance discussions, began working with several of the region's counties on legislative priorities for the coming year, and staffed the quarterly meeting of the Mayor & Chairs/CAOs in April. He also continues to serve as part-time Executive Director of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions, which in May and June, held daylong workshops focused on funding opportunities in regions.

Local/Regional Support

The TJPDC supports its member localities by leading or managing various programs that benefit an individual locality or several/all localities in the region. This work currently includes the following:

Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI): TJPDC, in partnership with Firefly Fiber Broadband, has obtained \$97 million in funding from two Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) grants to expand broadband throughout 13 Central Virginia counties. The \$352 million project is supported with matching funds of \$255 million from the utility partners and counties. When completed at the end of December 2026, nearly 5,000 miles of fiber construction will provide high speed internet access to over 44,000 homes and businesses throughout the project area.

- As of June 2026, the VATI 2022 portion of the project had achieved about 1,716 miles of Field Data Collection, 4,890 miles of Fiber Design, 2,474 miles of Make-Ready Construction, 15

Communication Huts set, 2,235 miles of Aerial Fiber Placement, 1,209 miles of Underground Fiber Placement, 3,025 miles of Splicing and 33,936 Passings.

- As of June, 2026, the VATI 2024 project had field data collection, fiber design and drops from aerial construction underway, and this portion of the project had completed 169,132 linear feet of fiber and 386 passings.
- On June 4, TJPDC partnered with Firefly to facilitate the 16th quarterly stakeholders meeting to provide VATI project updates for the 13 county partners.
- On June 30, TJPDC staff visited several rural locations in Powhatan County, south of Route 60, to observe completed fiber installation in VATI 22 and VATI 24 locations.

Blue Ridge Cigarette Tax Board (BRCTB): TJPDC provides administrative support to the Board, which includes four PDC localities (Albemarle, Charlottesville, Fluvanna, and Greene) and seven other jurisdictions outside our region.

- At its April meeting, the BRCTB approved a budget for FY27 to be recommended to the TJPDC for inclusion in its agency budget. The BRCTB budget anticipates just over \$3.3 million in pass-through revenues to the member localities. At the meeting, the Board also reviewed the FY25 Audit of the BRCTB Financial Statements and received an update on the move to separate accounting for the BRCTB.
- At each quarterly meeting, the Board receives various reports from TJPDC staff, including updates on cigarette packs sold and tax revenues distributed, and an update on the compliance agent's on-site visits to retail establishments that sell cigarettes within the Board's footprint.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS): TJPDC received a US EDA Economic Adjustment Assistance grant to develop a regional CEDS to benefit all TJPDC localities.

- The CEDS committee will reconvene in September of 2026 to provide updates on the strategies.
- TJPDC provides required six-month updates to EDA via a survey tool.

Transportation

Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO (CA-MPO): This federally required entity is responsible for conducting ongoing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning and programming in Charlottesville and the urbanized area of Albemarle County. The MPO considers long-range regional projects and combines public input, technical data, and agency collaboration to develop forward-thinking solutions.

- At its April 22, 2026, meeting, the CA-MPO Policy Board approved required resolutions of support for four applications submitted for SMART SCALE. The Policy Board also approved the FY27-FY30 updated Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document and a FY24-FY27 TIP amendment.
- In May, CA-MPO staff received the first draft of the regional travel demand model and participated in an all-day training.
- In May, the VDOT State Trails Office released the Statewide Multiuse Trails Plan. The plan assesses the state of the multiuse trail network in Virginia, which includes more than 1,500 miles of existing multiuse trails and more than 2,900 miles of planned multiuse trails. The plan establishes a foundation for the development of a system of connected multiuse trail networks across Virginia. Access the ArcGIS StoryMap and PDF versions of the plan [here](#).
- In June, the CTB approved the Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP), including VDOT and DRPT budgets. The TJPDC RideShare and PATH programs were approved for FY27 funding, as were Revenue Sharing project selections.
- In June, the CA-MPO Policy Board recommended study locations to VDOT and the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) for the next round of STARS and Project Pipeline Studies. Locations recommended included: US29 at Airport Road, US250 at Free Bridge, US29 and I-64 at Exit 118, and the Preston/Ridge-McIntire intersection.

Charlottesville-Albemarle Regional Transit Authority (CARTA): The 2023 [Regional Transit Governance Study](#) recommended that stakeholders implement the existing CARTA structure, approved by the legislature in 2009, while pursuing a funding mechanism to accomplish the regional goals identified in the [Regional Transit Vision Plan](#).

- The Charlottesville-Albemarle Regional Transit Authority held a special meeting on Friday, June 5th. The Board hosted Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Director Mariia Zimmerman and had presentations from the Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CVTA) and DRPT.

PATH (Partnership for Accessible Transportation Help): PATH is a regional mobility management program, funded by the Department of Rail and Public Transportation and administered by TJPDC, that builds partnerships and assists transportation providers with improving and increasing transportation options for non-drivers. PATH has a website and toll-free number to assist older adults and people who cannot drive to find rides.

- During this quarter, PATH, in collaboration with Jaunt, held a travel training for special education program students at Fluvanna County High School, gave a presentation on public transportation in the region for members of the North Garden/Covesville area community, gave two presentations for adult students at Piedmont Virginia Community College, participate in the Fluvanna County Lunch and Learn session and in the Louisa County Special Needs & Autism Awareness Festival.
- PATH has held monthly meetings with the leadership of the Cville Village volunteer program to discuss current activities and plans for the rest of the year.
- PATH participated in the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority Opportunity Fair dedicated to job seekers, as well as a local Spanish-speaking community open-doors event organized by Sin Barreras. It also participated in two meetings of the Charlottesville Regional Autism Action Group - a task force focused on adults with autism who are capable of independent living with some support. Representatives from Charlottesville Parks and Rec, the YMCA, VIA Centers for Neurodivergence, and other providers participated. Staff also participated in the How-To Festival at Jefferson-Madison Regional Library, connecting with community members and shared information about available transportation resources and services in our region.
- PATH continued updating and expanding the PATH website to include more comprehensive information about transportation options in the region, making it easier for residents to learn about local transit providers and mobility resources. The website was updated with the addition of the new Address Lookup Tool designed to help riders quickly determine whether they live within Jaunt's service area and which Jaunt transportation services may be available to them.
- In collaboration with Charlottesville Area Transit and The Center at Belvedere, PATH held travel training sessions for seniors living in the Charlottesville Area.
- During monthly meetings, staff exchanged updates on agencies' activities with members of the Louisa, Fluvanna, and Nelson Inter-Agency Council meetings, as well as Move2Health Equity and Charlottesville Area Alliance meetings.
- In May, the PATH program launched outreach to Volunteer Driver Programs (VDPs) operated nationwide. VDPs will complete a short survey about their programs, and selected operators will participate in follow-up discussion with PATH staff.
- The 2025 PATH Report was published this quarter.

Safe Streets and Roads for All: TJPDC is implementing an \$857,600 grant award for developing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for each locality in the region through the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Program. The overall project is named "Move Safely Blue Ridge."

- TJPDC staff collaborated with two jurisdictions to submit applications for the FY26 round of SS4A. TJPDC applied in partnership with Greene County and the Stanardsville Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of critical fire and rescue equipment. Staff also collaborated with Albemarle County on the development of application materials for a County-submitted safety projects along

the Hydraulic Road corridor.

Rural Transportation Program: This program started in 1993 as a cooperative forum for transportation planning in the counties of Albemarle (rural areas), Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson. The program provides local planning assistance to the rural governments, maintains the Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan, and assists the localities with other transportation needs.

- The Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) held its regular meeting in May.
- Staff compiled survey responses as part of the assessment process occurring in FY26.
- The FY27 Rural Transportation Work Program was approved by the Commission in April and by VDOT in June.
- TJPDC staff supported Nelson County in the preparation and submission of pre-applications for the SMART SCALE statewide transportation funding program.
- Staff completed both the VDOT Annual Park and Ride Inventory, as well as the regularly scheduled fourth quarter lot inventory.

RideShare: RideShare is a TJPDC program working to reduce traffic congestion and increase mobility throughout the region by providing free carpool matching and vanpool coordination and operating a Ride Home Rewards Program to provide free rides home in an emergency. RideShare is part of the statewide “ConnectingVA” app that can be used for transit trip planning and for commuters to share the ride.

- RideShare funding for the annual DRPT FY27 Operating Grant was approved by the CTB in June.
- RideShare hosted the third annual Bike Month Business Challenge during May, which included 26 participating businesses, more than double the number from last year. Participants biked 4,702 miles and reduced 1.82 tons of emissions.
- Staff continued a redesign of the RideShare website.