

RESOLUTION

Support for Additional State Funding for Planning District Commissions

WHEREAS, the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) is the Planning District Commission serving the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson, known together as Planning District 10; and

WHEREAS, Planning District Commissions (PDCs) were authorized by the General Assembly in 1968 “to encourage and facilitate local government cooperation and state-local cooperation in addressing on a regional basis problems of greater than local significance;” and

WHEREAS, the TJPDC is a member of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC), an association representing the 21 Planning District Commissions in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the 21 PDCs provide funding leverage, operational efficiencies and coordination of services, as well as collaboration that strengthen the state’s ability to meet its objectives, while also serving their member governments and the State in critical areas such as economic development, housing, transportation, solid waste/recycling, land use planning, broadband development, tourism and others; and

WHEREAS, PDCs receive base funding in the state budget through the Department of Housing and Community Development; and

WHEREAS, state financial support for PDCs, including the TJPDC, remains below the level of support provided in FY06, more than 15 years ago; and

WHEREAS, the VAPDC recently requested that additional state funding for PDCs be included in the FY25/26 budget that will be introduced to the General Assembly’s money committees in December; and

WHEREAS, that request notes that PDC’s have been challenged by the adequacy of resources to carry out functions prescribed by the *Code of Virginia*, or have done so at the expense of other projects that assist the state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, a 2012 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) report noted that one of the barriers to successful sustained regional collaboration is the “insufficient resources to initiate or sustain collaboration;” and

WHEREAS, additional state support for extending PDC capacity would provide resources and flexibility to 1) spur preparation and execution of additional regional projects and plans; 2) assist the State on joint work; 3) support additional services to member governments; and 4) help create more efficiencies in how citizens are served; and

WHEREAS, enhancing resources at PDCs also would help support efforts to bring federal dollars to the state and regions; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission supports inclusion of the aforementioned VAPDC request for an additional \$150,000 per PDC in the next biennial budget for FY25 and FY26.

Adopted this 2nd day of November 2023 by the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission.

Ned Gallaway, Chair