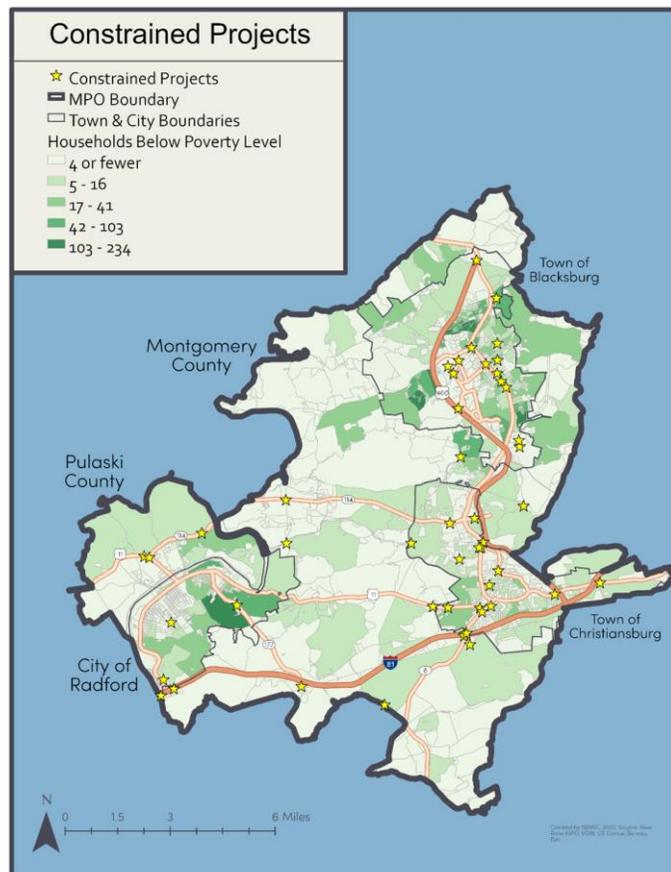




## October 2020 Update

### Long-Range Transportation Plan Update

If you live, work, or often visit the areas in and around Blacksburg, Christiansburg, or Radford, we need your input! The New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (NRVMPO) is required to develop and maintain a multimodal transportation plan for the urbanized areas of the New River Valley. As required by federal law, the plan includes a constrained list of projects that are anticipated to occur over the next 25-years. The MPO is officially seeking public comments through October 13, 2020. See the 2045 plan update and learn how to share your ideas at [www.nrvtransportationplan.org](http://www.nrvtransportationplan.org).



For more information contact Elijah Sharp ([esharp@nrvc.org](mailto:esharp@nrvc.org)), 540-639-9313.

## ReNew the New

ReNew the New is seeing an updated format this year due to COVID and Hurricane Laura. Interested participants have been asked to fill a trash bag, take a photo of their work and trade that photo for a t-shirt at participating locations. The effort has seen over 200 people from across the region fill hundreds of bags of trash and pull dozens of tires out of our waterways. #ReNewtheNew is a catalog of many of their efforts. Giles County, Pulaski County and the City of Radford have extended their cleanups through the year as t-shirt supplies allow.



For further information, please contact Nicole Hersch ([nicole@nrvc.org](mailto:nicole@nrvc.org)), 540-639-9313.

## NRVRC Board Member Transitions

The New River Valley Regional Commission would like to thank Dr. Helen Harvey for representing the City of Radford. Dr. Harvey served on the Commission twenty nine years (1991-2020) as a citizen representative. During her time on the Commission she played many instrumental roles having served as board chair (1990-1992), Commission representative to the NRV Development Corporation and Smart Beginnings NRV Advisory Board, and the executive director search committee in 2009. She was presented with a token of appreciation containing her dates of service to the region.

The Commission welcomes a new member, Jeff Martin, who joined the board September 18, 2020, filling the citizen representative role for the City of Radford.

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## Business Continuity Team

The Business Continuity Team (BCT) was developed to assist businesses in navigating a COVID-19 environment. The team is composed of a Program Manager – Melanie Morris, a Public Health Director- Ashley Briggs, and a soon to be hired Public Health School Liaison. The BCT is funded by GO Virginia, matched with local government CARES Act funds and a



Melanie Morris, BCT  
Program Manager



Ashley Briggs, BCT  
Public Health Director

Community Development Block Grant. The BCT has been working closely with the New River Valley Public Health Task Force and the New River Health District. The BCT has developed a toolkit for business owners/managers to establish an infectious disease protocol for not only COVID, but for other public health related issues. Once given the toolkit, the business will complete the initial steps and then receive a vendor list to call upon if they need services for site cleaning, legal advisement focused on human resource, or public relations assistance. The BCT will then reimburse the business up to 50% the cost for services.

In a month and a half since operations began, the BCT has provided information to over 100 employers in the NRV. They have consulted with 18 businesses on COVID cases and exposures with one business receiving onsite consultation for fitting of N95 masks.

In the coming months, the BCT is providing masks to all localities for election poll workers, along with an educational program on proper procedures for poll workers.

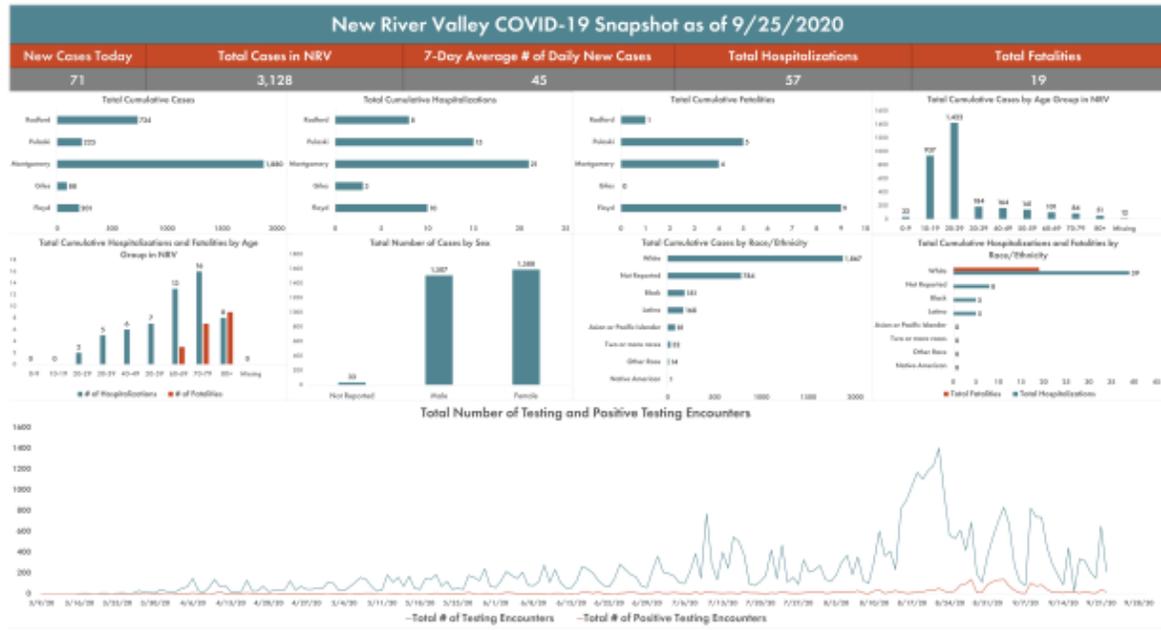
For more information on the Business Continuity Team, please contact Melanie Morris ([mmorris@nrvc.org](mailto:mmorris@nrvc.org)) or visit [www.nrvc.org](http://www.nrvc.org).

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## NRV COVID Dashboard

The Regional Commission has been providing support to the New River Health District and New River Public Health Task Force by creating a NRV COVID Dashboard. This dashboard contains important regional data regarding the global pandemic and is shared each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday as part of the New River Public Health Task Force updates.

For further information, please contact James Jones ([jjones@nrvc.org](mailto:jjones@nrvc.org)), 540-639-9313.



New River Valley Regional Commission | [nrvc.org](http://nrvc.org)



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