



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL commission

REGIONAL REVIEW NOV 2025



Driving Regional Progress Together

Photo: UVA students take a field trip to Roanoke and RVARC to learn about transportation planning in the region.



Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

How to Help in the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region

November 16 – 22 is Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, an annual opportunity to shine a spotlight on the problems of hunger and homelessness and organize our communities to take action.

As we move into the holidays and winter months, this is a critical time to rally support for the important work organizations are doing in our localities to serve vulnerable populations.

To participate, take time the week before Thanksgiving and beyond to address hunger and homelessness in your community through **volunteering, donating, and educating**.

To help raise awareness, **we're putting a spotlight on some of the phenomenal community organizations across the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region providing resources** addressing food insecurity and poverty. [See the guide on our blog here.](#)

ONLINE GUIDE

RIDE Solutions partners with Roanoke's Sustainability Office on "Love Your Commute" Program for City Employees



RIDE Solutions had a busy day of outreach at the City of Roanoke Health, Wellness and Benefits Fair through a partnership with the [Roanoke's Sustainability and Climate Resiliency](#) office.

At the fair, 130+ people from all city departments surveyed for a "Love Your Commute" program that aims to **help employees make their daily commute enjoyable, healthier and more sustainable**. Insights gathered on employee needs and interests will shape the pilot program, set to launch in Spring 2026.

The **Love Your Commute** program will provide employee support and incentives to encourage use of alternative transportation such as ridesharing, transit and biking.

This initiative supports the City of Roanoke's sustainability goals by:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Improving employee health and well-being
- Lowering commuting costs for employees
- Raising awareness of commuter tax benefits

**RIDE Solutions employer serv
assistance and resources. Co**
visit the link below!

Employer Resources

viding access to expert
land@rvarc.org to get started or

RVARC and Clifton Forge Engage Residents in Free Rain Barrel Workshop



Thanking the **Town of Clifton Forge** for their partnership in hosting a free Rain Barrel Workshop in October to help promote water quality education and conservation! 🌧️

Community members built and painted rain barrels to take home. Rain barrels collect rainwater from rooftops, allowing homeowners to use this free resource for watering.

RVARC collaborates with the Department of Environmental Quality, Soil, and Water Conservation Districts, other Planning District Commissions and environmental nonprofits to increase education, outreach, and implementation of best management practices in the **Chesapeake Bay Watershed**.



Celebrating Regional Progress at RVARC's 56th Annual Dinner at Explore Park



RVARC Board members, special guests, and our staff enjoyed a lovely evening together, celebrating regional achievements at our 56th Annual Dinner held at Explore Park!

This year's theme revolved around honoring our region's crown recreational treasures – the 100th Anniversary of the Appalachian Trail and the Blue Ridge Parkway. We extend our gratitude to Explore Park and Roanoke County for their gracious hospitality, and we eagerly anticipate the exciting new park amenities that are planned and underway!

We were privileged to hear from Dr. Carolyn Ward, CEO of the [Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation](#), and gained insights into the significant work they undertake to preserve history, protect the environment, enhance visitor amenities and provide educational outreach.

[See Annual Dinner photos on our blog here.](#)



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No RVTPO or RVARC Meetings in November

Join us for the next scheduled meetings in December. Wishing our committee members a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!



Roanoke Valley Transportation
PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Staffed by the
REGIONALcommission



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

Roanoke Valley TPO
December 11, 2025 @ 1 PM

Regional Commission
December 11, 2025 @ 3 PM

313 Luck Ave SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

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Public participation is encouraged in these meetings, with a designated time for public comments. Agendas are available up to one week before in the above meeting links.

Tune in virtually: Regional Commission and RVTPO meeting recordings are livestreamed on our [Facebook page](#) and archived on our [YouTube channel](#).

Fly for the Future: Why ROA Matters to Us All



Fly ROA! ✈

RVARC Executive Director Jeremy Holmes and Eric Sichau, Roanoke Regional Chamber CEO, co-wrote an op-ed published in Cardinal News **advocating for the Roanoke-Blacksburg Airport as an important economic driver for our region.**

"Air service is not just about convenience. It is about economic competitiveness, jobs and attracting the next generation of talent and opportunity. That is why choosing to fly from the Roanoke-Blacksburg Airport (ROA) is so critical to the future of our region."

[Read Op-Ed](#)

PROJECT PIPELINE SURVEY

ROUTE 419 (ELECTRIC RD.)

Roanoke County



Take the survey through
NOVEMBER 24

DRPT  **VDOT**

Take the Community Survey to Help Improve Electric Rd!

A survey is open now until November 24 to review and comment on possible corridor and intersection improvements.

[Visit Roanoke County's project page for more information](#)

For a paper survey, call Megan Cronise at (540) 772-2106.

[TAKE SURVEY](#)



Small city, big plans: In Covington, new businesses and amenities turn optimism into action

The City of Covington was recently featured in the Cardinal News, highlighting the community's quality of life and successes in economic development.

"More than a dozen shops and restaurants have opened downtown in recent years. The city is developing public amenities such as a new miniature golf course, a public art display and a green space for future outdoor events. It's all part of this small Virginia city's effort to attract and retain residents and visitors."

[See Article](#)



Photo Credit: WFXR

Celebrating the Newest Stretch of the Roanoke River Greenway between Salem and Roanoke County

From WFXR: "The newest section of the Roanoke River Greenway is officially open, running through the City of Salem and Roanoke County.

It spans a little over half a mile, bringing the trail within a mile of Green Hill Park's additional mile of trails.

The expansion forms the latest link in a broader goal to connect both Explore Park and Green Hill Park with the greenway."

[Watch Video](#)

The Regional Commission is a leader in driving collaboration and strategy within our communities on issues that are critical to the economic growth, quality of life, and sustainability of this region.

Connect with Us!



www.RVARC.ORG

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission
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