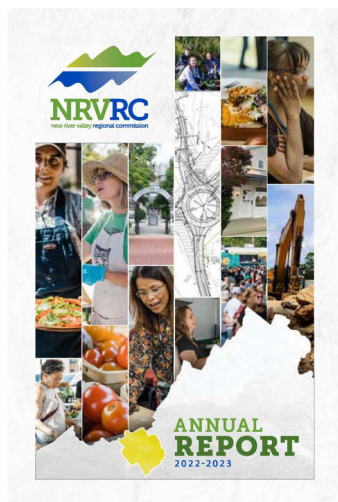




October 2023 Update



NRVRC FY22-23 Annual Report

The Regional Commission is pleased to share our 22-23 [Annual Report!](#) We invite you to take a few minutes to review the programs, projects, and collaborations from the last fiscal year.

Printed copies of the report will be mailed to elected officials in the New River Valley, along with our partners, and Regional Commission Board members. Please let us know if you would like a printed copy sent to you!

For more information, please contact Kevin Byrd at kbyrd@nrvc.org.

Bike-Ped-Paddle Plan for the NRV Adopted and Live

The Regional Commission recently developed an interactive plan to highlight existing bikeway, walkway, and water trails throughout the region. Community stakeholders, local government, and transportation professionals identified areas where infrastructure could enhance alternative transportation capabilities in the New River Valley. The Bike-Ped-Paddle Plan presents a vision of safe, reliable, healthy, and environmentally-friendly alternatives to motorized transportation.

The Bike-Ped-Paddle Plan is an web-based, interactive resource that was prepared in coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation, local governments, and



planning departments throughout the region. A new interactive format was implemented to build upon and enhance the accessibility of previous versions of the Bike-Ped-Paddle plan. The adoption of this plan is a step towards reaching regional goals of multimodal transportation, connectivity of trails within and beyond the region, and development of new facilities in coordination with Virginia Department of Transportation projects.

[Click here to view the plan](#)

For more information, please contact Kathleen Armstrong at karmstrong@nrvc.org or Hannah Schelthoff at hschelthoff@nrvc.org



New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority

The NRV Passenger Rail Station Authority received great news with a recommendation from Governor Youngkin to fully fund the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant request of \$354,000 for architecture/engineering services related to the station design/construction. The proposal is matched with \$240,000 in local funds from authority members and the NRV Metropolitan Planning Organization. The ARC grant will save considerable local resources for the project while helping to develop a significant economic asset for the region.

For more information, contact Chris Owens (cowens@nrvc.org).

Montgomery County Community Event for the VATI 2021 Project

Montgomery County held a community event on Wednesday September 6, 2023 at the Meadowbrook Public Library. The communities targeted for the 2021 Virginia Telecommunication Funds (VATI) Project includes Allegheny Springs, Elliston, Lafayette, and Shawsville. This project will provide broadband service to 1,292 serviceable units including 1,248 residential units and 44 businesses and community anchors.

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has awarded the County \$919,569 in VATI funds, GigaBeam Networks, the Internet service provider (ISP), in partnership with Appalachian Power Company (APCO) is contributing \$347,305, and the County is contributing an additional \$140,763 for a grand total of \$1,407,637.

GigaBeam Networks also brought a brochure to give the citizens information about how and where to sign up for services. After the presentations, citizens and county representatives enjoyed the opportunity to further discuss the project.

The intent of the event was to showcase Montgomery County's VATI 2021 Broadband project and the impact it will have on the citizens of the county.

For more information, contact Chris Owens (cowens@nrvc.org).

Road to Wellness website update

The Regional Commission and New River Health District (NRHD) staff have been working on revamping the Road to Wellness website to better reflect programs and services offered by the NRHD. The updated site highlights community health programs and partnerships that address health needs across the region. The initial updated elements of the new site launched on October 2nd with a focus on flu and flu vaccine access in the region. We continue to gather input from users, NRHD staff, and partners to promote and expand access to resources, services, and health care providers. Please visit the site and offer your thoughts on the Road to Wellness in the region: <https://www.nrvroadtowellness.com/nrv-road-to-wellness>.



For more information, contact Holly Lesko, hlesko@nrvc.org.

[Visit our website](#)

New River Valley Regional Commission | nrvc.org



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