



April 2021 Update

NRV Communities Expected to Receive Round Four SMART Scale Funding



Communities in the New River Valley are currently recommended to receive \$37.8M in Round Four Smart Scale funding! If the projects are supported by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, the region will see much needed safety improvements along Route 100 in Giles County; a new park-and-ride lot will be available at I-81 Exit 114; and a new round-a-bout will be constructed at the intersection of Newbern Road and Cougar Trail to support the Volvo facility expansion in Pulaski County. In addition, intersection improvements will be made in downtown Christiansburg and the Fairlawn area of Pulaski County. In total, NRV communities requested 18 projects, totaling more than \$175M.

The Regional Commission was pleased to support local communities during the SMART Scale competitive application process. Furthermore, the Commission submitted its first application to the program on behalf of Pulaski County. Learn more about SMART Scale and the Round Four recommended funding scenario here: www.smartscale.org.

For further information, please contact Elijah Sharp (esharp@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313.

Online Public Engagement Updates



The Commission recently launched a new online public engagement tool and is establishing a new virtual community platform called Engage NRV. We are pleased to announce two

projects that are live and ready to receive feedback from their communities.

The Town of Pulaski is currently in the process of updating their comprehensive plan. With the Engage NRV platform, the Town can receive feedback from the community to help guide the development of the comprehensive plan.

Additionally, the City of Radford is currently developing the Eastern Downtown Area Plan, which aims to develop strategies to strengthen the economic vitality of the area. This project will engage with Radford's local business community, property owners, residents, and visitors.

For further information, please contact Christy Straight (cstraight@nrvc.org) or Aphi Fancon (afancon@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313.

NRVRC welcomes Anna Champion

Anna joined the Commission as part of the Business Continuity Team in February of 2021 as the Volunteer Coordinator and call center supervisor for the COVID vaccination rollout in the region. Anna has lived in Blacksburg since 2003 and earned her doctoral degree in Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences from Virginia Tech in 2014, and her BA in Biology and Chemistry from the College of St. Catherine.

Anna can be reached at (achampion@nrvc.org) or 540-639-9313.

If interested in volunteer opportunities in our scheduling call center or at the vaccination sites please visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRV_COVID_volunteers

