



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL commission

REGIONAL REVIEW APRIL 2026



Driving Regional Progress Together

Photo: Celebrating with the Town of Vinton at the ribbon cutting of the newly constructed Vinton War Memorial Park.

Engaging Communities through Sustainable Transportation

BIKE TO WORK MONTH 2026

MAY 1 - 31, 2026

Bike Month is a celebration of cycling that happens annually in May, supported by local organizations and businesses.

It's a chance to ride and explore commuting by bike or for fun! Join us for community events and our challenges, with chances to win prizes!



Learn more at:
[ridesolutions.org/
bikemonth](https://ridesolutions.org/bikemonth)



RIDE Solutions and community partners have collaborated to provide a lineup of community events, challenges and resources to promoting bicycling as recreation and transportation throughout the region.

By creating events and challenges that involve all interest, skill, and age level of cyclists, we hope to create an environment where individuals, social groups, and businesses are encouraged to create and host their own events.

Check out RIDE Solutions [Bike Month webpage](https://ridesolutions.org/bikemonth) for:

- How to participate in challenges to win gift cards and prizes by bike commuting.

- Resources and inspiration with "Love Your Commute" video spotlights on local bike enthusiasts.
- Involvement in local events. Key opportunities:

🚲 **Walk and Roll to School on Wednesday, March 6**

🚲 **[Bike Commuting 101](#) at Cardinal Bicycle on Tuesday, May 12 6pm**

🚲 **Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 15**

BIKE MONTH

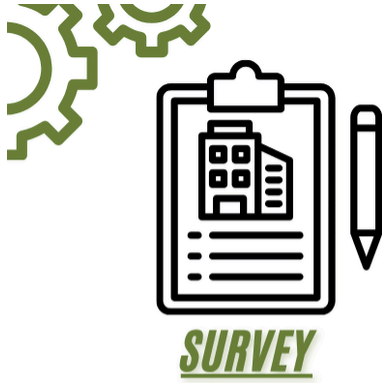


RVARC staff helped support a successful Walk and Roll Ready Rally on April 11, led by the City of Transportation and Roanoke City Schools at the Westside Elementary's Traffic Garden.

The event was designed to help elementary age kids and families build confidence walking, biking and rolling safely in Roanoke. See a [video recap of this community collaborative event by RVTV](#).

Learn more about the campaign leading up to **Walk and Roll to School Day** on May 6 at slowyourroll2026.org.

Give feedback on Regional Transportation Projects!



SURVEY

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



TO PARTICIPATE

[HTTPS://ENGAGE.RVARC.ORG/TIP](https://engage.rvarc.org/TIP)



Introducing the **Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2027-2030 Update** – where your tax dollars are finally making their way to real, impactful projects! 🇺🇸

Have your say on the projects set to rev up the Roanoke region's roads, transit, rails, and trails in the coming years. We're talking about major projects that matter to our region and bring everyone together.

Review the projects and tell us what you think, April 17 through April 30th, 2026, at <http://engage.rvarc.org/TIP>

Provide Feedback

Rural Transportation Survey

Please provide feedback to help identify transportation community needs in rural areas of our region.



<https://engage.rvarc.org/2045-rlrtp>



**Announcing our 2026 Writer by Bus, Chanlee Luu!
Advocate for rural transportation needs by April 30!**

In rural communities, transportation needs look different—longer trips, fewer options, and roads that do double-duty for farm, freight, and families. **Help us build a practical, locally driven Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan** for the next 20 years by taking our quick survey.

Participate by taking a short survey during the public comment period ending April 30 and share with others: <https://engage.rvarc.org/2045-rlrtp>

Learn more in the press release [HERE](#).

For assistance, please call 540-343-4417 or email Alison Stinnette, astinnette@rvarc.org.

Take Survey!



Chanlee Luu, local poet who received her MFA at Hollins University, received a bus pass at our annual celebratory kickoff event at the Third Street Transit Station in downtown Roanoke.

For two months, Chanlee will ride the bus around Roanoke Valley and develop an original work for chapbook publication. We're so excited to see Chanlee's literary creativity come to life through this project! Learn more about [Chanlee Luu at her website HERE](#).

A partnership between RVARC Valley Metro, Roanoke Arts Commission and the Bus Riders of Roanoke Advocacy Group (BRAG), Art by Bus brings attention to the ways that transit improves quality of life in the neighborhoods it serves. Learn more about the program at <https://itl.ink/artbybus>

Upcoming Meetings

Roanoke Valley TPO
April 23, 2026 @ 1 PM
313 Luck Ave SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

Regional Commission
April 23, 2026 @ 3 PM
313 Luck Ave SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

Meeting Calendar

Public participation is encouraged in these meetings, with a designated time for public comments.

Tune in virtually: Regional Commission and RVTPO meetings are available to watch later within two business days on our [YouTube](#) page.



The Appalachian Trail and the Roanoke Valley

Kathryn Herndon-Powell, Regional Director for the [Appalachian Trail Conservancy](#), presented at the March 2026 Regional Commission meeting.

Kathryn shared that somewhere between **50,000 - 70,000 hikers visited McAfee Knob** and **over 4.3 million visited the ATC in Virginia in 2025.**

The presentation included information on regional ATC projects like the VA-311 Pedestrian Bridge, McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle and improvements to trails, conservation areas and hiker accommodations. The presentation recording can be viewed here [HERE](#).



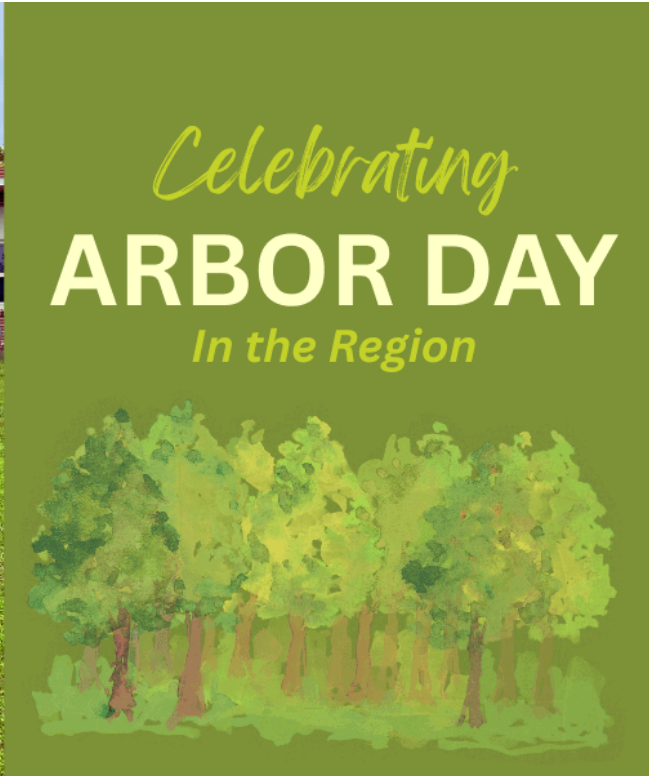
From Church to Housing: Trinity Commons

A new affordable housing project is about to make an impact for low-income residents and seniors! Find out how a historic church in Roanoke's Old Southwest neighborhood was renovated by local nonprofit [Restoration Housing](#).

Trinity Commons is a collaborative effort was made possible through grant funding from partners like the City of Roanoke, TAP's Land Bank, Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development and the Roanoke Valley Allegheny Regional Commission.

RVARC congratulates Restoration Housing and partners for completing this excellent example of adaptive reuse housing tailored to community needs! Take a peek at Trinity Commons in this [RVTV video](#).

RVTV Video



Arbor Day is an opportunity to engage hands-on in environmental stewardship and foster appreciation for the vital role trees play in our communities. By teaching youth how to plant trees, we empower them to contribute to a sustainable future.

RVARC, through the Virginia Trees for Clean Water initiative provided by the Virginia Department of Urban Forestry, assists in funding localities for their annual Arbor Day Celebrations.

Join a community event commemorating Arbor Day in our region:



Thursday, 4/23 3-4 PM
Photo by Jennifer Griffin, courtesy of Visit VBR
2914 Jae Valley Rd, Roanoke VA 24014

Roanoke River Blueway featured in Travel & Leisure

"You don't necessarily have to leave the city limits of Roanoke, Virginia—a destination long known as the home of the Roanoke Star, the world's largest free-standing, human-made, illuminated star—to find nature, wildlife, and views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Just grab a kayak, canoe, tube, or stand-up paddleboard, and head on over to the Roanoke River Blueway."

Article

**GLADE CREEK GREENWAY
RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY and
MEMORIAL BENCH DEDICATION for
BRIAN EPPERLEY**

Thursday, April 30, 2026 at 1:00 PM
150 Vinyard Park Drive, Vinton, VA 24179



EVENT PARKING:
150 Vinyard Park Drive
(large parking lot at Vinyard Park West)

**Join us at the Glade Creek
Greenway Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
April 30 1 PM**

Roanoke County staff will hold a ribbon cutting for the Glade Creek Greenway along with a memorial bench dedication for Brian Epperley.

Event parking is at 150 Vinyard Drive, Vinton, Virginia.

[More Info](#)

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

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