Chair Cavalier’s Message

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer! I would like to take this opportunity to update you on what is happening at RIC, share some important agency accomplishments and apprise you on a few of the projects in our service area.

The transportation staff members at RIC have been busy these last few months.

• The staff have been working on grant applications for the Department of Transportation, Transportation Alternatives Program. Four grant applications have been completed for the cities of Dunbar, Clay and Smithers.
• The Jefferson Road Project went to bid and should be under construction by 2020.

The community development staff members at RIC have been busy as well these last few months.

• In Boone County, the staff has been working on the Prenter Phase II Water Project, the pre-bid is complete, and the project is on the way to bid and then on to construction.
• In Kanawha County, Kanawha Public Service District in Chelyan has been awarded an additional one-million dollars from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the Lens Creek Project. The RIC staff have also been working with the West Virginia Development Office on an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant for this project, which has been submitted and should get the project close to funded for construction.
• In Putnam County, the staff have been working on the Manila Ridge Waterline Extension Project, which has gone to construction. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on May 9, 2019.
• The staff members have worked on four new HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications for towns throughout the region.

I look forward to seeing you at our next quarterly meeting on Thursday, September 12, 2019 as we work TOGETHER to promote local communities, regional solutions and statewide impacts.

D. Anne Cavalier, Ed.D.
RIC Chair
Newly Elected Officials

The following new mayors have been serving their communities since July 1, 2019:

- City of Chesapeake: Jack Lavender
- Town of Clay: Josh Shamblin
- Town of Clendenin: Kay Summers
- Town of Glasgow: Donald Fannin
- Town of Sylvester: Harvey Ferrell

New RIC Officers

The following RIC officers were elected to serve for 2019-2020:

Chair D. Anne Cavalier
1st Vice-Chair William E. Cunningham
2nd Vice-Chair Jay Snodgrass
3rd Vice-Chair S. K. Miller
Treasurer & Secretary Damron Bradshaw

2019 RIC Meeting Dates

September 12, 2019
December 12, 2019

All meetings will be held at 12:00 Noon at the West Virginia Regional Technology Park
West Virginia Region III
Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan

The Regional Intergovernmental Council, along with the WV Division of Public Transit and consultants RLS & Associates, have completed an update to the Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan. The plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes, and provides strategies for meeting these needs, and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation. The plan meets the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) requirements for a local coordinated transportation plan as set forth in the FAST Act Guidelines and was adopted by the RIC Policy Board on June 13, 2019. The Plan is on RIC’s website: www.wvregion3.org.

Meet the Regional Intergovernmental Council Staff

Joanna Keller is an Administrative Assistant who has been with the Regional Intergovernmental Council (RIC) for two years. She lives in St. Albans and attends Riverlawn Presbyterian Church. In her spare time Joanna enjoys camping, hiking and kayaking with her family and being actively involved in her church. Joanna stated that what she likes most about working at RIC is her coworkers because they are always so friendly and helpful. Joanna also enjoys working at RIC because of everything RIC does to help the communities within the region.
IMPACT ON DISTRESSED COUNTIES
In West Virginia, 12 counties were considered economically distressed in fiscal year 2018, with pockets of distress in other areas. 34 projects totaling 92% of ARC investment dollars will have a direct impact on these distressed areas.

INVESTMENTS IN ACTION
With ARC support, the Elkhorn Creek Water Project will extend waterlines to the Northfork, Keystone, Upland, Powhatan, and Kyle areas of McDowell County, an ARC-designated distressed county. This investment will replace aging and failing water systems, enabling the area to better serve residents as well as visitors to the Hatfield-McCoy trails.

WEST VIRGINIA
In partnership with the West Virginia Development Office, ARC supported 47 projects in West Virginia totaling nearly $15.9 million in fiscal year 2018. These investments have been matched by nearly $19.7 million and will attract an additional $24.0 million in leveraged private investments in West Virginia. They will also create or retain 650 jobs, train and educate over 4,800 students and workers, and benefit the 1.8 million residents in West Virginia’s 55 counties.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY
Economic Opportunities
ARC invested nearly $5.5 million in entrepreneurial and business strategies to strengthen the economy in West Virginia.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY
Ready Workforce
ARC invested almost $5.1 million to increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of West Virginia’s residents to work and succeed.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY
Critical Infrastructure
ARC invested over $3.8 million in West Virginia’s critical infrastructure development, including broadband, transportation, and water/wastewater systems.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY
Additional Priorities
ARC invested nearly $1.5 million to leverage cultural and natural assets and cultivate leadership and community capacity in West Virginia.
Manila Ridge Groundbreaking May 9, 2019

Pictured above from left, Jim Nagy with Terradon Corporation, Commissioner Andy Skidmore, Senator Glen Jeffries, Commissioner Stephen Andes, Commissioner Ron Foster, Jeff Ferrell with West Virginia American Water and SoJuana Ellis with RIC.

Congratulations to the Putnam County Commission and the residents of Manila Ridge. The groundbreaking ceremony for the Manila Ridge Waterline Extension project was held at the Manila Chapel Church on Thursday, May 9, 2019. The Manila Ridge Waterline Extension project in northern Putnam County will bring public water service from West Virginia American Water to 52 homes by the end of 2019. The $1.7 million water line extension project was made possible by a $1.5 million Community Development Block Grant Award from HUD and a Public-Private Partnership between the Putnam County Commission and West Virginia American Water.

Sign-up to Join the RIC Email List

If you would like to receive information about upcoming events and opportunities, sign up to join our email list at http://eepurl.com/dH-hyj or use the QR Code below:
How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond

Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a census worker.

- 95% of households will receive their census invitation in the mail.

- Almost 5% of households will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off. In these areas, the majority of households may not receive mail at their home’s physical location (like households that use PO boxes or areas recently affected by natural disasters).

- Less than 1% of households will be counted in person by a census taker, instead of being invited to respond on their own. We do this in very remote areas like parts of northern Maine, remote Alaska, and in select American Indian areas that ask to be counted in person.

Note: We have special procedures to count people who don’t live in households, such as students living in university housing or people experiencing homelessness.
How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond

What to Expect in the Mail

When it’s time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail.

Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you’ll receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

Letter Invitation

- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking you to go online to complete the census questionnaire.
- We plan on working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we’ll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

Letter Invitation and Paper Questionnaire

- Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their invitation. The invitation will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL</th>
<th>We understand you might miss our initial letter in the mail.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On or between</td>
<td>You’ll receive:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 12–20</td>
<td>An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16–24</td>
<td>A reminder letter.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If you haven’t responded yet:</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 26–April 3</td>
<td>A reminder postcard.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8–16</td>
<td>A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 20–27</td>
<td>A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.</td>
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Upcoming RIC Meeting

September 12, 2019 - 12:00 Noon at the West Virginia Regional Technology Park

Regional Intergovernmental Council
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Website: www.wvregion3.org · Email: mail@wvregion3.org

Chair: D. Anne Cavalier, Ed.D. · Executive Director: Colt Sandoro

Newsletter prepared by Joanna Keller

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Local Communities / Regional Solutions / Statewide Impacts