

REGIONAL COOPERATION: What's Worked

Richmond's Future

March 3, 2011

Lane Ramsey

Mechanisms for Cooperation

- Virginia Provide Multiple Mechanisms for Local Cooperation
 - Authority
 - Commission
 - Service Agreement
 - Contract
 - State Initiative
 - Joint Services Power, Local Govt. Commission
 - Planning District Commissions

Utilized in Multiple Arenas

- Economic Development and Tourism
- Education and Arts
- Emergency Management/Preparedness
- Health/Mental Health
- Jails and Detention Services
- Law Enforcement
- Recreation
- Solid Waste Management
- Transportation
- Social Services

Major Examples

- Greater Richmond Convention Center Authority
- RIC
- Virginia Biotechnology Research Park
- Richmond Metropolitan Authority
- Appomattox Water Authority
- Riverside Regional Jail
- Greater Richmond Partnership
- Maggie Walker and Appomattox Governors' Schools

Major Examples (Cont'd)

- VCU School of Engineering
- Capital Region Collaborative
- Medflight
- 288
- Joint Purchasing Agreements
- The Diamond
- Water and Sewer Agreements
- Henricus

Keys to Success

- Initial Vision/Leadership/Business Champions
- Linkage of Locality Self Interest to Regional Benefit
- Strong Relationship Between Local Leaders of Different Jurisdictions
- Managers/Administrators Assume an Active Not Passive Role
- Elected Officials Willing to Sell Cooperation's Benefits to Their Constituents

Going Forward

- Think about Cooperation in Broader and Larger Contexts-Not Only 4 Jurisdictions
- Be Flexible in Thinking about the “Region”- Some Initiatives May Involve 2 Jurisdictions, Some Many, and Some May Involve Jurisdictions Outside our Normal Boundaries
- Be Attentive to Incentives for Cooperation that Tie Local Interests to Regional Aspirations