

Northern Virginia Regional Commission The Innovation Region

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) is a regional council of thirteen member local governments in the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, DC. According to Virginia's Regional Cooperation Act, NVRC is a political subdivision (a government agency) within the Commonwealth.

Each member jurisdiction appoints one or more representatives from its governing body to serve on NVRC's board of 24 Commissioners. Only elected officials may be appointed, and the number of representatives per jurisdiction is population-based. The Commission is served by a highly trained staff and administrative support personnel, who apply their expertise to areas of regional concern. These areas include geographic information systems (GIS), environmental services, energy, military affairs, transportation, waste management, workforce, human services, and international partnerships

With a rich history spanning 60 years, NVRC's primary focus has been on providing information, performing professional and technical services for its members, and serving as a mechanism for regional coordination. Current programs and projects address a wide array of local government interests.

NVRC is the primary representative of the Northern Virginia perspective, advocating in the region's interests to state government, to other geographic areas of Virginia, and to the metropolitan area.

The work of the Commission is supported by annual contributions from its member local governments, by appropriations of the Virginia General Assembly, and by a variety of grants, contracts and fees from both governmental and private sector sources.

Northern Virginia Regional Commission Jurisdictions

Cities

Alexandria
Fairfax City
Falls Church
Manassas
Manassas Park

Counties

Arlington
Fairfax
Loudoun
Prince William

Towns

Dumfries
Herndon
Leesburg
Vienna

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Northern Virginia Regional Commission



The Innovation Region
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Recent Accomplishments

- Continued the support and development of the Four Mile Run computer model, incorporating new data from participating jurisdictions on watershed changes to maintain the accuracy and validity of assumptions.
- Provided medical care, supportive services and/or housing to approximately 2,834 unduplicated low-income persons with HIV/AIDS in Northern Virginia.
- Secured \$19.5 million in funding for these programs in the region over the last two years.
- Continued coordination of the Plant NoVA Natives Program and implemented several community education programs.
- Created an Academic/Business Alliance to work with the private and public sectors related to cyber security and workforce development issues.
- Held community bike and pedestrian safety trainings in high crash areas.
- Established relationship with AARP to assist older Americans with pedestrian safety matters and identify high crash areas in their communities.
- Completed three years of Solarize campaigns. Through November 2017 the campaigns have resulted in more than 1.4 MW of new solar with a construction value in excess of \$4.5 million. The program utilizes local, Virginia based contractors.
- Held training on proper handling and disposal of hazardous waste for local governments, universities and businesses in the region.
- Coordinated and undertook trail familiarity tours in several communities to highlight tourism value of trails.
- Obtained the services of a SolSmart advisor through the National League of Cities to provide free services to NVRC members on improving processes and inspection services for solar PV systems.
 - Implemented a Federal grant to develop a climate resiliency plan for the region.
 - Hosted experts and elected officials from Germany to share best practices in energy planning, efficiency and resiliency.
 - Coordinated NoVA Regional response with MWCOC to identify locations for electric vehicle infrastructure as part of VW/Electrify America settlement.

Northern Virginia Regional Commission Programs, Projects and Services

Human Services

NVRC has special interest in convening human and social service leaders from around the region to discuss and jointly plan for programs that help residents who are struggling with poverty, inadequate employment, housing costs, ill health, or disability. NVRC produces a variety of informational products that connect residents in need with services that can help them meet their personal potential. NVRC also receives and distributes federal and state funds for specific human service programs in the region.

Workforce

NVRC working with the Community/Military Partnership Committee has established an academic/business alliance to promote further advancement of public school division cyber education readiness. With an estimated 30,000+ vacant cyber related jobs in the region, NVRC working with local governments, school districts, higher education institutions and the private sector are working to develop strategies to fill the gaps in providing cyber certified teachers at the middle school and high school level of education.

International Partnerships

NVRC's international programs are one of a kind and outcome-oriented. For over 16 years, NVRC has engaged in the unilateral transfers of innovative technologies and policies from overseas that can be applied to strengthen the economies, environment and communities of Northern Virginia. NVRC's international programs are out-

come-oriented and undertaken together with the region's academic, commercial, research and civil society partners. The past and current thematic focus of NVRC's international programs include transfers of climate mitigation, comprehensive energy planning, sustainable water and transportation infrastructure, climate adaptation, smart cities, and workforce innovations from countries such as Germany, France, the Netherlands and United Kingdom.

Environmental Services

NVRC has been a leader in developing regional approaches and programs to protect and preserve Northern Virginia's environment since 1969. Through its role as an intergovernmental liaison and neutral forum on environmental issues and through analysis of conditions and trends, NVRC supports local and State government decision making processes. Among its efforts, NVRC provides ongoing professional and technical support for two multi-jurisdictional watershed management programs and for a regional solid waste management program.

Military Partnerships

NVRC maintains a coalition of public and private sector partners dedicated to attracting, retaining and grow-

ing federal facilities in the region. The Northern Virginia Community and Military Partnership has focused on education and outreach, finding ways to partner with the military bases to provide services to maintain their viability in the region, and to better coordinate and collaborate on issues of common concern. The Partnership coordinates with all stakeholders to insure awareness of anticipated Federal actions with near, mid and long-term impact on the Northern Virginia region.

Commuter Ferry

NVRC was awarded a grant from the US Maritime Administration to complete an infrastructure gap analysis on ferry landing locations from Woodbridge, Virginia to Maryland and the District of Columbia. This grant follows on the Commuter Ferry Market Analysis that determined that commuter ferry service is viable on the Potomac River.

Energy

NVRC has led the discussion about the implementation of community energy planning (CEP) programs. Further, NVRC offers programs that link renewable energy resources with energy efficiency helping the region reduce its carbon footprint.

Learn more at www.novaregion.org