



Special Report

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The *Recovery Act*: Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Virginia

Earlier this year, the Democratic Congress worked with President Obama to enact the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (the *Recovery Act*) in an effort to rescue, rebuild, and strengthen our struggling national economy. Eight years of failed fiscal policies and misguided economic priorities had left our national economy on the brink of disaster, and now – only nine months later – our economy is on the brink of recovery. The *Recovery Act* and the efforts of American businesses and workers, like those in Virginia, made this progress possible.

Despite this encouraging news, Democrats know that many Virginians are still struggling, and unemployment – a lagging economic indicator – remains far too high. In response, Democrats are working to create and save millions of jobs with *Recovery Act* dollars and tax relief. Already, with more than half of the dollars yet to be spent, the recovery package has provided for more than one million jobs and the rate of job loss has slowed significantly. As we look toward the future, Democrats believe that the *Recovery Act*, combined with the American work ethic and ingenuity, will continue to make a difference for families in Virginia and will deliver on its promise to rebuild our economy and get Virginians back to work.

The *Recovery Act* is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference

Last week, the White House announced that certain recipients of *Recovery Act* funds have reported the creation of 640,329 direct jobs. About 325,000 of these jobs are in education and over 80,000 are in construction. These numbers, however, represent only about 16 percent of expenditures through September 30 and do not reflect the majority of *Recovery Act* funding to date, which has gone directly to individuals and states, including:

- Tax relief for businesses and working families;
- Small business loans, which are exempt from reporting;
- The first-time homebuyer tax credit;
- Direct federal aid, including \$250 direct stimulus checks, enhanced unemployment benefits, increased food stamp benefits for vulnerable families; and
- State fiscal relief, which prevented job cuts at the state and local government level.

Moreover, the reported data does not capture indirect or induced jobs created when prime contractors hire suppliers or other companies to complete projects or when newly employed workers spend their pay checks. It is estimated that, if included, indirect jobs would add

another 50 percent or more to the direct jobs numbers and induced jobs would add an additional 36 percent. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#); CBPP, [10/28/09](#)]

Taken as a whole, the reported data confirms earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* would create or save over one million jobs by now, even though less than half of the *Recovery Act* funds have been put to work. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#)]

Moreover, without the *Recovery Act*, economists believe that the economy and the unemployment rate would be much worse.

- According to Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projections, “The effect of the stimulus legislation on the level of economic activity will probably build during the second half of 2009 [and] have its maximum impact in the first half of 2010... CBO estimates that real GDP will be 1.4 percent to 3.8 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2009 than it would have been without the stimulus, 1.1 percent to 3.4 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2010, 0.4 percent to 1.2 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2011, and zero to 0.3 percent higher by the fourth quarter of 2013.” [CBO, [8/09](#)]
- These estimates were bolstered by third quarter growth when, for the first time in more than a year, the economy expanded, and, at 3.5 percent, it expanded faster than expected. [*Wall Street Journal*, [10/29/09](#)]
- According to economist Mark Zandi, “The research of Moody’s Economy.com suggests that a million fewer jobs would exist today, while the unemployment rate would already have risen well into double digits.” [Testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, [10/29/09](#)]

The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Virginia

In Virginia, this partial reporting indicates that 8,617 jobs have been created or saved by funding 1,196 awards worth \$3,444,947,494, of which \$489,277,020 has already been received. [Recovery, Accountability, and Transparency Board, accessed [11/2/09](#)]

Similar to the national number, this validates the White House’s earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* is responsible for saving or creating 24,000 jobs so far for Virginians (accounting for indirect and induced jobs). [Council of Economic Advisors, [9/2009](#)] **Virginia is on track to benefit from a total of 93,000 Recovery Act jobs.** [The White House, [2/2009](#)]

These numbers alone cannot adequately convey the human impact of the jobs that are supported by the *Recovery Act* – the real-life stories of local companies that can hire new employees, workers who are no longer faced with uncertainty, and families that no longer need to struggle to pay their bills. The following is a sampling of some of the local *Recovery Act* success stories in Virginia:

Recovery Act will repair or replace 119 structurally-deficient bridges in Virginia, while putting more Virginians to work. “More than 119 bridges across the Commonwealth will either be replaced or repaired in the coming months through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Commonwealth Transportation Board announced last week that it had awarded seven construction contracts to replace 119 structurally deficient bridges across the state that would have otherwise not been repaired. The awarded contracts, totaling \$50.7 million, are part of the Commonwealth’s continued efforts to invest \$694.5 million in highway

funding from the federal recovery act, according to the office of Gov. Timothy M. Kaine...’ These bridge replacements and repairs will address a significant safety issue in our transportation network and put Virginians back to work,’ Kaine said last week. ‘While Virginia is consistently named one of the best states for business, we must maintain our infrastructure to stay economically competitive and keep our citizens safe. No state or nation can grow out of a recession with a crumbling infrastructure, and I am very happy that these funds will provide immediate jobs and economic stimulus, as well as long term dividends for the Commonwealth.’ [Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 10/27/09]

Recovery Act will fund the energy-efficient enhancements to Roanoke's Richard H. Poff Federal Building. “A Missouri design company has scooped up a wad of Roanoke's federal stimulus dollars, winning a contract to design the renovation of the Richard H. Poff Federal Building to make it more energy efficient. Kansas City-based TranSystems Corp. got the \$2.9 million design contract Sept. 30 ... The contract is just one part of the \$50.9 million renovation project to make the 14-story Franklin Road building ‘green’ by adding an energy-efficient window system and a solar-roof system. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, President Obama's effort to rejuvenate local economies struggling with recession, will fund the project.” [Roanoke Times, 10/23/09]

In, Williamsburg, the Recovery Act money has improved roads and helped save up to 50 jobs. “You may have noticed more construction while driving on parts of Interstates 64, 264, and 464 around Hampton Roads. Since the federal stimulus money started trickling in, construction crews at Branscome Incorporated have been busy repaving sections of these highways... ‘It's helped us to avoid layoffs that otherwise would have occurred, it's kept us from shrinking even more. It's a tough time for the construction companies everywhere and so it has certainly helped us keep some of our crews busy that otherwise we wouldn't have work for’ according to Hunter Creech, CFO at Branscome Incorporated.]. Creech says before the company contracted with V-DOT to do these stimulus road projects, the company was planning to lay off 30 to 50 employees... . Branscome's contract with V-DOT to do these stimulus projects not only helped Branscome but it also boosted business for those who supply the materials needed to do these construction projects. ‘It helps our hired trucks who do the work for us. It doesn't just affect our company it affects everyone we do business with.’” [WTKR 3, Video, 10/20/09]

Virginia is set to use Recovery Act funds to help localities make school buildings more energy efficient. “Gov. Timothy M. Kaine said today that localities will compete for the money, made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act adopted by Congress this year to stimulate the ailing economy. ‘Today's announcement will advance two of the Commonwealth's top priorities--education and energy efficiency,’ Kaine said in a statement today. ‘When school divisions lower their energy consumption, they can lower their energy costs and direct more resources to the classroom, all while reducing their environmental impact.’” [Richmond Times-Dispatch, 10/14/09]

In Virginia, Recovery Act grants continue to fund transportation projects. “Federal stimulus dollars are paving the way for road improvements in Virginia... According to Virginia's Secretary of Transportation, of the \$695 million Virginia received, about \$172 million is dedicated to projects around Hampton Roads, with the possibility of an additional \$20 million for projects like paving on Interstate 64 and 264, widening Fort Eustis Boulevard and construction on Witchduck Road. ‘We're spending the money on new projects that will provide solutions that otherwise wouldn't be provided. I think that's what the stimulus dollars were really meant to do,’ said Governor Kaine... Virginia's Secretary of Transportation says the Commonwealth Transportation Board is approving some local projects Thursday and

authorizing the VDOT Commissioner to approve additional projects this month, including construction on Witchduck Road”. [WAVY-TV 10, 10/14/09]

Department of Forestry will create 12 new jobs and retain 42 positions thanks to \$1 million in Recovery Act Funding. “The Virginia Department of Forestry will receive about \$1 million in federal stimulus funding to be used for projects in 15 localities in the Shenandoah Valley and five localities in Southside Virginia. The \$1.076 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds will create 12 new jobs and retain 42 positions in the designated areas, according to Paul Revell, VDOF’s urban and community forestry manager. ... In the Shenandoah Valley, the communities of Winchester, Front Royal, Woodstock, Strasburg, Stanley, New Market, Broadway, Timberville, Bridgewater, Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro, Lexington, Elkton and Grottoes will benefit from tree planting for stream bank restoration, riparian buffer establishment, environmental site design work, community tree planting and/or greenway/trail development. A total of 10 jobs are expected to be created and 30 jobs retained during the duration of the project implementation. The Martinsville and Danville areas in Southside Virginia will see two jobs created and 12 jobs retained for projects involving community tree planting, tree maintenance, hazard tree removal, tree inventory/assessment work as well as stream restoration planting.” [Staunton News Leader, 10/1/09]

Thanks to Recovery Act funding, the University of Virginia has funded research jobs in many fields, from medicine to nursing, astronomy to physics, engineering to education, biology and others. “To date, U.Va. investigators have secured more than \$38.7 million in stimulus funding for 102 projects across the research spectrum, from medicine to nursing, astronomy to physics, engineering to education, biology and beyond. Funding ranges from thousands of dollars to millions, including a \$3.2 million grant to study genetic contributors to diabetes and dyslipidemia in African-Americans, led by medical professor Michele Sale. Other funded projects include a study to improve the healing of diseased or damaged vascular systems, led by biomedical engineer Shayn Peirce-Cottler; a study of extrasolar planets by astronomer Philip Arras; and an investigation into Rydberg atoms to understand connections between classical and quantum mechanics, led by physicist Thomas Gallagher. ‘The federal stimulus program is fostering new discoveries that will enhance dissemination of knowledge to the commonwealth, the nation and the world,’ Thomas Skalak, vice president for research, said. ” [The News Leader, 9/30/09]

Culpeper County Public Schools will save 46 existing positions and add 14 new jobs with Recovery Act funding. “New federal and state funds – totaling \$4.1 million – has allowed Culpeper County Public Schools to save 46 existing positions and add 14 new jobs. The Culpeper County Public School Board voted 5-0 Monday to approve \$1.9 million in Title I federal funding. In March, the board approved its \$70.6 million operating budget for fiscal year 2010, which included the \$2.2 million in state money. The \$2.2 million saved the 46 existing positions, while the \$1.9 million created the 14 new positions and added more technology (such as SMART boards) and other school supplies. Lauren Thomas, budget analyst for CCPS, said the new 14 employees were hired this month. Both programs are part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the nation’s economic stimulus package enacted to help improve the financial system.” [Star Exponent, 9/29/09]

Using Recovery Act funds, Newport News high schools hired new “graduation coaches” to work with 400 special-education and academically at-risk students to earn high school diplomas. “Newport News high schools have a new team of coaches. But these aren't athletic coaches. They're graduation coaches with a goal of helping more than 400 special-education and academically at-risk students earn high school diplomas in the next two years. Each school has two coaches who are paid with federal stimulus money. They work with

school teachers and staff, and with parents and guardians, to weave a net of support for their students designed to keep them from dropping out before graduating... 'Program director Cynthia Watson said they meet with parents and guardians at whatever time works best. They encourage students and parents to take advantage of tutorial sessions, remediation, credit-recovery classes, job internships and career exploration. They monitor grades and attendance. They read transcripts. They work with counselors and teachers.' [Newport News, 9/27/09]

Millions in Recovery Act funds will go to help spruce up Virginia parks, including one of the nation's largest Civil War battlefield parks. "Federal stimulus money is flowing to Virginia's national parks, including one in the Fredericksburg area... Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park received \$1.1 million, most of which is earmarked for heating and cooling equipment upgrades at the Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville visitor centers and the Chatham headquarters... The 8,000-acre battlefield park is one of the nation's largest devoted to the Civil War. It includes the Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House battlefields and related sites. Twelve Virginia national parks received a total of \$27.2 million... Parks include the Appalachian Scenic Trail, Appomattox Court House National Historic Park, Colonial National Historical Park, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Petersburg National Battlefield, Richmond National Battlefield Park, Shenandoah National Park, Prince William Forest Park and Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. Prince William Forest Park, off Interstate 95 about 20 miles north of Fredericksburg, got \$5.5 million to resurface 11 miles of road and parking areas, and for culvert repair." [Fredericksburg News, 9/28/09]

Recovery Act-funded artisan and craft center in Staunton set to create 48 permanent jobs 270 temporary jobs, and increase local tourism. "City officials expect a \$1 million federal stimulus grant to provide a boost for a planned 8-acre artisan and craft center that is expected to bring dozens of new jobs and thousands of tourists to Staunton... Staunton was one of the recipients of the Community Development Block Grant Recovery funds that will enable the city to provide assistance with the construction of the AWASAW Regional Artisans and Cultural Center. The center, which will to be built on the grounds of the Frontier Culture Center, is expected to provide amenities for artists, wine businesses, a restaurant, a "4-D" theater... and a Virginia National Guard museum. Staunton Director of Economic Development Bill Hamilton said projections show the center will create 48 permanent jobs and about 270 temporary jobs during the construction process. In addition to creating jobs, he said the city's tourism will receive a boost from the 300,000 visitors expected to visit... In addition to Staunton's grant, Kaine announced an additional \$4 million in stimulus funds to benefit other areas around the state." [The News Ledger, 9/25/09]

Chesapeake School District will use Recovery Act funds for training inclusion and special education teachers. "Chesapeake will spend about \$580,000 in stimulus money on the training for inclusion teachers, along with additional training for special-education teachers. Federal law requires that students with disabilities meet the same testing standards as other students. The requirements have pushed school divisions to get special-education students more exposure to the general curriculum. As schools across the region struggle to bring up the test scores of students with disabilities to meet federal standards, Chesapeake plans to use some of its stimulus money to do additional training with teachers such as Cindy Aspery - the non-special-ed teachers working with special-ed students. On a recent visit to the class taught by Cindy Aspery and Mindy Gumpert, the two were conducting a social-studies review. They split the class into two groups, right down the middle - some special-ed students went to Aspery, where she did a lesson about Virginia geography, while others went to Gumpert, where they made booklets describing the activities of Native Americans during the four seasons. That's how

inclusion should work, Gumpert said. But in order for it to operate that way, both teachers must be able to handle anything in the classroom. Having to pull special-ed students aside 'defeats the purpose. You're trying to include these kids in the classroom,' Gumpert said. 'If I'm constantly having to pull them out, I might as well be next door.'" [The Virginian-Pilot, 9/25/09]

Recovery Act grant will strengthen the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program at Reston Interfaith. "Reston Interfaith was recently awarded \$424,236 in grants through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program, authorized through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The act allotted a total of \$1.5 billion for a Homelessness Prevention Fund... The Reston charity serves those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless through its Embury Rucker Community Shelter, transitional housing program and Emergency Self-Sufficiency Services Program, all of which will use these funds to assist the most vulnerable in the community." [Reston Connection, 9/23/09]

Recovery Act allocation will fund green transportation in Arlington with new hybrid buses. "Arlington Transit has landed \$1.5 million in stimulus funds to buy CNG-Hybrid buses, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced Monday. ART was one of 43 projects to receive funding from \$100 million in stimulus grants for green projects nationwide. The new ART buses will replace the system's current, smaller Ford diesel vehicles... 'Arlington Transit is showing how investing in green transportation not only helps the planet and strengthens our economy, but also creates jobs,' said LaHood, in a statement." [Washington Business Journal, 9/22/09]

The Danville Forestry Department will retain 12 jobs and create 2 more with Recovery Act funding. "Southside will have two jobs created and 12 retained for tree planting, maintenance, removal and inventory projects, according to a news release from the Virginia Department of Forestry. The department received more than \$1 million of federal stimulus money for projects in Southside and the Shenandoah Valley. Paul Revell, the department's urban and community forestry manager, said in a news release that \$179,000 was earmarked for the Southside Virginia Community Tree Planting Initiative. U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced the funding for the state's projects as part of a series of awards to improve water quality, air quality, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities and forest fire resistance, according to the release." [Danville News, 9/18/09]

Thanks to Recovery Act funding, Virginia will create 12 new jobs, retain another 42. "The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOP) has been awarded just over \$1 million in federal stimulus funding to be used for projects in 15 localities in the Shenandoah Valley and five localities in Southside Virginia. The \$1,076 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds will create 12 new jobs and retain 42 positions in the designated areas, according to Paul Revell, VDOP's urban and community forestry manager... U.S. Forest Service Chief Thomas Tidwell said, 'Our goal is to have projects well underway as soon as possible to create jobs for the citizens we serve, and support our mission of sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forest to meet the needs of present and future generations.'" [Rockbridge Weekly, 9/16/09]

Two Petersburg elementary schools will receive Recovery Act funds for expansions. "Two Petersburg elementary schools will receive federal stimulus money for school renovation and expansion projects, Gov. Timothy M. Kaine announced yesterday. Robert E. Lee Elementary School will receive \$6.4 million and Walnut Hill Elementary School will receive \$5.8 million in no-interest construction bonds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act." Governor Kaine: "I am certain that this funding will ease some of the need in these communities by creating jobs and improving learning environments for our children." [Richmond Times-Dispatch, 9/11/09]

23 Suffolk-area organizations will receive *Recovery Act* funds to help people on the verge of homelessness. “The city will get \$515,144 in stimulus money to help people on the verge of homelessness... The money is intended to prevent homelessness or to quickly re-house and stabilize people who already are homeless, according to a statement today from the governor’s office. The initiative, called the Homelessness and Rapid Re-Housing Program, will provide short-term rental assistance for people who qualify under federal and state guidelines, said Thaler McCormick, executive director of ForKids, a Norfolk-based nonprofit that runs Suffolk House, an emergency shelter. The Suffolk shelter had to turn away 135 people – including 73 children – in July due to lack of space, McCormick said. Also in Western Tidewater, the Isle of Wight County Department of Social Services was awarded \$363,631. That grant will help serve people there and in Franklin and Southampton County.” [The Virginian-Pilot, 9/9/09]

Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge will use *Recovery Act* funds to renovate its management building and double the size of its summer youth conservation corps program. “When Jared Brandwein moves into his new office this winter on Asheville Creek, all he will be able to see through his windows is water. With floor-to-ceiling panes overlooking a tributary off Sandbridge Road, the manager of Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge will have the illusion that he is on a boat. In fact, every room in the building, which will also be a visitor center for folks going to the main refuge property south of Sandbridge, has a water view... The structure is being renovated with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, otherwise known as stimulus money. A \$528,000 contract was awarded this summer to Casa Builders of Virginia Beach to add new siding and a new roof and to install a new heating and cooling system, among other work. The refuge also received \$30,000 in stimulus funds that doubled the size of the Youth Conservation Corps program this summer. Twelve high school students and three leaders worked over the summer to rehabilitate trails and fences, plant trees and shrubs, and thin reforestation sites.” [The Virginian-Pilot, 9/7/09]

Washington County will use *Recovery Act* grants for water and environmental projects. “Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack says an additional \$172.5 million in federal stimulus funding has been awarded for water and environmental projects in more than 20 states. Vilsack announced the additional funding Thursday during a visit to Louisa. In Virginia, the funding includes a \$10 million loan for the Washington County Service Authority and a \$290,000 loan and \$767,000 grant for Grayson County. Funding also was awarded for projects in Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and West Virginia.” [Associated Press, 9/3/09]

Baker Equipment won *Recovery Act* contract to build refueling stations for cars that run on alternative fuel. “An \$8.6 million grant from the Department of Energy will help fund the conversion of more than 1,000 vehicles in Virginia and eight other states to run on propane gas. The grant, part of the national stimulus package, was awarded to the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy. The DMME will manage the project, along with Virginia Clean Cities, which aims to create a southeastern corridor for propane-powered vehicles... Skip Baker, president of the family business that started in 1919, said he is excited about the grant award. ‘We believe it is good for Virginia [and] has the potential to create green jobs, as well as displace the use of petroleum and clean the air,’ said Baker.” [Richmond BizSense, 8/31/09]

***Recovery Act* grant will fund widest-scale conversion of cars to run on alternative energy in “Virginia Clean Cities” program’s history.** There’s ‘something in it for

everybody.’ Chelsea Jenkins, executive director of Virginia Clean Cities, said the [Recovery Act] grant will fund about a third of the total costs of the project...Jenkins said 205 vehicles will be converted in Virginia, 200 of which belong to two Northern Virginia-based taxi companies that serve Dulles Airport... ‘There has never in the history of the Clean Cities program been this kind of funding available for alternative fuel projects. We’ve never managed anything this large in scope because we’ve never had the opportunity,’ Jenkins said....Over the course of the four-year project, 15,772,100 gallons of gasoline will be displaced. According to Alliance AutoGas spokesperson Shelby Stephens, propane fuel on average runs between 60 cents to \$1.20 cheaper than unleaded gasoline depending on location.” [Richmond BizSense, 8/31/09]

Virginia receives Recovery Act grant to build autogas corridor for converting vehicles from conventional gasoline to clean propane autogas. “The state received an \$8.6 million federal stimulus grant Wednesday to build its portion of the southeastern AutoGas corridor, which will include fueling stations in Raphine and Harrisonburg. The AutoGas Corridor Development Program is a unique, progressive project aimed at building the infrastructure for public and private vehicle operators to convert existing vehicles from conventional gasoline to clean propane AutoGas. ‘These Recovery funds, in addition to limiting pollution, will help Virginia and other states create new jobs in the clean fuel sector,’ Gov. Tim Kaine said in a press release. The program is receiving \$8,605,100 in ARRA grant money from the Department of Energy to fund 1,064 vehicles and 17 fueling stations, creating the nation’s first AutoGas Corridor through the Southeast.... AutoGas propane stations are proposed in the following Virginia locations: Arlington, Bedford, Berryville, Dulles Airport vicinity, Falls Church, Gordonsville, Harrisonburg, Powhatan, Raphine and Richmond” [Staunton News Leader (VA), 8/27/09]

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority will use Recovery Act money to speed up construction for the Dulles Corridor Metro project. “Northern Virginia will receive \$77.2 million in stimulus funds for the Dulles corridor Metrorail project, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced Tuesday. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority will use the money to speed up the rail’s construction and reduce the costs for the project’s financiers, which include Loudoun County, Fairfax County and the airports authority. The funds are part of \$6.7 billion in stimulus money being spent on transit improvements nationwide.” [Washington Business Journal, 8/25/09]

Two mass transit providers in Northern Virginia received Recovery Act funds to expand their fleets and enhance services. “The federal government awarded nearly \$14 million in stimulus funding to two mass transit providers in Northern Virginia, allowing them to expand their fleets and enhance services. About \$9.8 million, administered by the Federal Transit Administration, will go to Virginia Railway Express, and the rest will go to the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC). This is the first money the organizations have received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ‘These funds are creating jobs now, while investing in the future of our transit systems,’ FTA Administrator Peter M. Rogoff said in a statement. ‘The public’s demand for transit service continues to grow, and these dollars will help meet that need.’” [The Washington Post, 8/19/09]

Virginia will receive more than \$80 million dollars in Recovery Act funds to fund wastewater infrastructure projects. “In a move that stands to create jobs, boost local economies, improve aging water infrastructure and protect human health and the environment for the people of Virginia, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded over \$80 million to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. This new infusion of money provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will help the state and local

governments finance many of the overdue improvements to wastewater projects that are essential to protecting public health and the environment across the state.” [EPA, 8/18/09]

Two Northern Virginia transit providers will receive *Recovery Act* funds to expand their fleets and improve their services. “The federal government awarded nearly \$14 million in stimulus funding to two mass transit providers in Northern Virginia, allowing them to expand their fleets and enhance services. About \$9.8 million, administered by the Federal Transit Administration, will go to Virginia Railway Express, and the rest will go to the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC). This is the first money the organizations have received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ‘These funds are creating jobs now, while investing in the future of our transit systems,’ FTA Administrator Peter M. Rogoff said in a statement...PRTC has about 13,000 riders daily, and VRE served an average of 15,600 riders daily in July.” [The Washington Post, 4/19/09]

***Recovery Act* Funds used to ease traffic congestion on Fairfax County Parkway.** “Thanks to a \$60 million dose of stimulus funds, the once ailing Fairfax County Parkway project is set to deliver its final phases by August 2011. The four-phased, \$177 million project aims to ease traffic congestion... The construction on Fullerton Road will require a detour starting in October.” [Washington Business Journal, 8/17/09]

Nearly 900 young people participated in *Recovery Act*-funded summer jobs programs in Hampton Roads area. “About 45 teens and young adults wrapped up their taxpayer-funded summer jobs Monday with a career fair and one last round of advice... Federal stimulus money funded the program and others like it this summer across Hampton Roads and the country. Cities paid \$7.25 an hour for the young workers to clock in at municipal jobs and get skills training on the side. The final numbers haven't been calculated, but it is estimated that nearly 900 young people earned almost \$2 million through the programs in Hampton Roads, said Robert Sharak, public relations officer for Opportunity Inc. of Hampton Roads, the entity that helped distribute the money. [Virginian Pilot, 8/18/09]

***Recovery Act* resources disbursed to Virginia for host of transportation projects.** “Virginia is receiving more than \$41 million in federal funding for transportation improvements. U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced the funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act on Thursday. Since February, more than \$4.2 billion in federal grants through the recovery act have been awarded for transportation improvements across the country. The grants provide funding for buses, vans and other transit needs to the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, the Greater Lynchburg Transit Company, Harrisonburg, Blacksburg and the Richmond area transit system. The state Department of Rail and Public Transit also is receiving funding through the recovery act.” [Associated Press, 8/13/09]

***Recovery Act* funded the creation of Charlottesville/Albemarle sexual assault response team, to coordinate agencies in unprecedented collaborative action.** “In the Charlottesville area, sexual assaults are handled by two hospitals and an array of law-enforcement agencies, prosecutor’s offices and courts. But a new program is aiming to make the system easier for victims to navigate. ‘Ultimately, the goal would be to serve the victims better,’ said Walker Thornton, the executive director of the Sexual Assault Resource Agency. Her group has a received a grant to coordinate the new Charlottesville/Albemarle Sexual Assault Response Team. SARA will receive \$31,536 across 18 months. The funding is from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and will be administered by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services.” [Charlottesville Daily Progress, 8/14/09]

Recovery Act funds for Alexandria have been used for homelessness prevention, energy efficiency, renovation, and more. “The planning, vetting and subsequent applications submitted to take advantage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act have resulted in a ‘benefit’ of about \$41.6 million, according to a city spokesperson, with applications still pending... The city has gained funding for an array of programs ranging from a courthouse renovation to relief and education for the homeless and those in danger of homelessness looking to gain self-sustainability. Some funds were competitive, grants available but unallocated by the federal government, and some were allocated to the city under the management of City Manager Jim Hartmann. The city received about \$241,000 in the Community Services Block Grant, which will help low-income residents take advantage of available dental services, give job training to ex-convicts and ‘provide utility assistance, including utility management education, to low-income city residents,’ Communications Officer Andrea Blackford said in an email. Another grant, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, awarded about \$324,000 to improve the city’s police, sheriff and court departments. From \$35,000 worth of bulletproof windows at the courthouse to an \$18,000 firearms training system for police officers to \$50,000 for enhanced support of a mentoring program for ‘at-risk youth,’ the federal dollars are going toward one-time fixes (like security for courthouse staffers) and long-term, goal-oriented solutions (like encouraging the city’s youth away from criminal behavior).” [Alexandria Times, 8/13/09]

Recovery Act paid for teens to plant native species on Eastern Shore, improving water quality, protect aquaculture, and sustain coastal ecosystems. “Twelve teenagers with the Youth Conservation Corps worked with state and federal agencies to successfully plant more than 550 native plants on the Eastern Shore in two days. The teenage crew worked with staff from the Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge and the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program at the Department of Environmental Quality to complete the installation of two native plant demonstration landscapes at the refuge on July 7 and 21... The refuge received support from the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, The Nature Conservancy Virginia Coast Reserve, Virginia Field Office Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District and refuge volunteers. Stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act enabled the Fish and Wildlife Service to double the size of the YCC crew this summer.” [Bethany Beach Wave, 8/12/09]

Bedford Domestic Violence Services received Recovery Act funds to hire a full-time domestic violence advocate. “After debating the merit of the economic stimulus package, the Bedford County Board of Supervisors voted Monday to accept a federal grant that will benefit the county’s domestic violence program. Bedford Domestic Violence Services, a division of social services, received nearly \$79,000 in grant money from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The funding is considered a one-time opportunity and is authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Violence Against Women Act, according to a resolution supervisors voted 5-2 to approve Monday... The grant would be used to hire a full-time trained domestic violence advocate to respond to calls on a hotline through the program. Leighton Langford, director of social services, said the hotline received more than 4,000 calls from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009. ‘We need to have an individual to answer these calls,’ Langford said. ‘It does do a wonderful service to the community.’” [Lynchburg News & Advance, 8/10/09]

Services to the impoverished in Franklin and Patrick Counties have been supported by Recovery Act money. “A local organization has distributed \$253,743 in federal stimulus funds to non-profit community service agencies in Franklin and Patrick counties. Jon Morris, executive director of STEP Inc. (Support to Eliminate Poverty), announced the grants for the agencies at a meeting Tuesday night. The federal funds were provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which was approved by Congress

earlier this year to help stimulate the national economy. Morris said Helping Hands will receive \$50,000 to provide financial assistance and other aid to its clients. Stepping Stone Mission, which provides meals for homeless people, will receive \$25,000. The Free Clinic of Franklin County will receive \$10,000, Morris said, and the Free Clinic of Patrick County will receive \$15,000. STEP will provide \$20,000 for daycare assistance and \$48,743 for transitional employment for unemployed persons.” [Franklin News-Post, 8/7/09]

Recovery Act-funded summer youth employment program conferred jobs to approximately 120 young people in the New River Valley. “The federal government helped Katelynn Cowan pay a few household bills this summer with the money she received to ready McHarg Elementary School for the coming school year. But first, of course, the 17-year-old had to buy a new cellphone and get a haircut. She's heading into her junior year at Christiansburg High School and has to look good, too. Katelynn and three of her schoolmates spent the summer tidying up the elementary school. They're among the group of about 120 14- to 24-year-olds from across the New River Valley who took summer jobs funded by the Summer Youth Employment Program stimulus package... Across Virginia, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act poured about \$11 million into work-force boards this summer. The students working earned \$7.25 an hour, tax free, in the hopes that they'll get a life experience while spending their money. Goodwill runs work-force programs for youths annually. Without the stimulus boost, it would have hired only about 84, said Linda Matthews, vice president for work-force development. Instead, the extra federal money helped put 120 young workers into schools, government offices and private industry, Matthews said.” [Roanoke Times, 8/5/09]

More than 50 new employees added to Virginia Tech thanks to 18 Recovery Act grants. “As of July, Virginia Tech researchers have received 18 grants through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, totaling almost \$6.8 million, announced Robert Walters, vice president for research. Project topics range from research experiences for undergraduates to the development of advanced materials and studies of disease-causing mosquitoes. Fifteen of the grants are funded by the National Science Foundation and three are National Institutes of Health grants. The economic stimulus aspect of the grants takes the form of providing more than 50 people with summer-time, part-time, or full-time employment. The support means opportunities for students to pursue their studies. A number of postdoctoral researchers are also being employed.” [Staunton News Leader, 7/27/09]

The Suffolk Center for the Cultural Arts received a Recovery Act grant to support education. “The Suffolk Center for the Cultural Arts announced recently it is the recipient of a \$10,300 stimulus grant to support education at the center. The money will account for part of the salary for a director of education. Jody Mazur started this week in that position. Her job will involve finding partners for educational activities at the center, supervising the community school of the arts, spearheading a home school initiative and more. The partners might include schools and nonprofits, Paul Lasakow, the center's director, said on Thursday. Lasakow said arts education is the reason for the center's existence.” [Suffolk News-Herald, 7/23/09]

Recovery Act funds will allow the Franklin Municipal-John Beverly Rose Airport to undertake its first runway repairs since the 1980s. “Franklin Municipal-John Beverly Rose Airport's aging runway is being rehabilitated at no cost to the city. ‘It was to a point where it was needed,’ said Jimmy Gray, the airport's manager. He said that the runway hadn't been rehabilitated since the early 1980s. ‘It was already in our Capital Improvement Plan, but since we got the stimulus money, the city doesn't have to pay.’ The \$2.2 million project, which started on May 18, is being done solely with federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.” [Tidewater News, 7/22/09]

According to the Richmond Stimulus Tracker, Recovery Act funds have created or saved 160 jobs. “The U.S. Recovery Act has saved or created 160 jobs in Richmond so far, according to the city’s newly launched stimulus tracker. The new website breaks down the \$17 million Richmond received in stimulus grants project by project, with an estimate of jobs secured by each... Community development grants totaling more than \$1.3 million are estimated to save or create a total of 106 jobs, mostly in the construction field. Those projects will help fund affordable housing developments and home repairs for low income elderly residents. The city also received \$6.2 million from Environmental Protection Agency for sewer improvements, funding a total of three projects. Combined they will require 44 full and part time construction workers for 10 to 12 months. The projects will provide additional short-term jobs to quarry truck drivers, steel manufacturers, and concrete suppliers.” [Richmond Biz Sense, 7/21/09]

Recovery Act-funded highway projects across Virginia, representing large investment of federal dollars. “More than \$1 billion in federal stimulus money is on its way to Virginia and will be earmarked for dozens of transportation projects in the commonwealth, according to Gov. Tim Kaine. The money comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Virginia is expected to get a \$4.8 billion in total stimulus funds over time.” Governor Kaine: “These projects are beginning at a time when we are facing a national economic crisis, and they are putting Virginians to work. The projects also will pay long-term dividends to all of us, in the form of improved bridges and highways, railways and other transit, sewage treatment and drinking water.” [Washington Business Journal, 7/20/09]

Recovery Act funds allocated for researching alternative energy applications at VA Martinez Outpatient Clinic will foster local green energy sector and create jobs.

“The Veteran Administration’s Martinez Outpatient Clinic is slated to receive over \$350,000 in federal stimulus funds. The money is intended to pay for an extensive study on how to incorporate solar and geothermal energy systems into the facility’s existing infrastructure.” Rep: Miller: “This funding will help create green construction jobs in our community and represents one more step toward our goal of creating a new energy economy in our country. This effort requires making much needed upgrades to the facilities that serve our Veterans.” [Martinez News-Gazette, 7/14/09]

Recovery Act grant allotted for wounded veteran internship program, eliminating revenue shortfall and allowing matriculation of 15-18 additional veterans for job training. “The Virginia Department of Transportation has received a \$1.2 million federal job-training grant for its Wounded Veteran Internship Program. The funds from the economic stimulus package are aimed at providing on-the-job training in transportation, engineering or construction for underrepresented or disadvantaged people, according to the U.S. Transportation Department. The federal agency singled out Virginia’s wounded-veterans initiative, started in 2006, as a successful example of the training programs. The new grant will let VDOT train an additional 15 to 18 veterans for 12 to 24 months.” [Richmond Times-Dispatch, 7/14/09]

Recovery Act -financed state weatherization initiative enabled a local organization to increase the number of low-income households helped from 194 to 300. “Locally, Total Action Against Poverty, or TAP, is one of the organizations providing weatherization assistance and has grown the program under the Recovery Act. Last year, 194 homes were fitted with additional insulation, low-flow water fixtures, and Compact Fluorescent lights. This year with additional funding, over 300 homes will receive the treatment and TAP created 10 new jobs to keep up with the demand... Roanoke resident, Walter Warner sees the project as a blessing. “The house is over 50 years old and didn’t have a lot of insulation in it. We were spending a lot in

oil trying to heat it in the wintertime,' Warner said. 'We're thankful now that they came in and insulated the walls and they said it would be a lot better in the wintertime.'" [WDBJ – TV, 7/8/09]

\$570,000 in Recovery Act funding allocated to Blue Ridge Medical Center for inventory improvement and facility enhancement. "The Blue Ridge Medical Center, a local health care facility on U.S. 29 in Colleen, will receive more than \$570,000 in federal stimulus money by the federal Department of Health and Human Services. The money is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is to be used for maintaining facilities and improving services in health centers. Blue Ridge was one of 24 health facilities in Virginia to receive a total \$13.5 million. The money will be used by the health centers to address immediate and pressing facility and equipment needs and increase access to health care for patients who lack health insurance, according to Virginia Sen. Jim Webb and Sen. Mark Warner." [Nelson County Times, 7/8/09]

\$766,950 in Recovery Act funding supplied to southwest Virginia Community Health Systems for additions and updates to the Saltville Medical Center. "In two separate statements, three federal legislators circulated word last week of stimulus funds approved for 24 community health centers in Virginia, including the medical center and the former T.K. McKee Hospital in Saltville. U.S. Senators Jim Webb and Mark R. Warner announced the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released more than \$13.5 million in grants for the health centers' maintenance and improvements." [Smyth County News, 7/7/09]

Virginia will pay 55 workers with Recovery Act grant for bay restoration. "The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced Tuesday the Virginia Seaside Bays Restoration project will receive support from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support 55 jobs that will restore oyster reefs, scallops, and seagrass beds on Virginia's Eastern Shore. The project is a partnership between The Nature Conservancy of Virginia, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, and the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program." [Salisbury Daily Times, 7/4/09]

Atlantic Contingency Constructors secure \$100.7 million in Recovery Act funding for Norfolk Naval Base solar energy projects. "Atlantic Contingency won three cost-reimbursement task orders from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in Norfolk under a previously awarded contract for installation of solar energy systems. The systems are intended to generate renewable energy at Navy shore facilities and will be tied into the electrical distribution grid. Work for one of the orders, worth up to \$25.7 million, will be done in the Norfolk area... The work for all three orders is expected to be completed by Sept. 30, 2010. Funding for the solar projects comes from the federal stimulus package - the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009." [Virginian-Pilot, 7/2/09]

Virginia DOT has obligated nearly 60 percent of its \$694.5 million Recovery Act highway allotment. "Virginia has already committed almost 60 percent of the federal highway funds that it received under the federal stimulus bill, the White House announced Thursday. The state is slated to receive \$694.5 million under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and plans to use much of the funding to make a dent in its maintenance backlog. According to Virginia Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer, the state has about \$1 billion worth of needed pavement repairs and \$3.4 billion in bridge repairs... The Federal Highway Administration has granted Virginia \$287 million of the stimulus funds to date, and VDOT has already awarded \$81 million of that to begin actual projects, according to a June 17 Commonwealth Transportation Board report." [Fairfax Times, 7/1/09]

\$700,000 from *Recovery Act* sourced to Johnson Health Center for variety of improvements. “The Johnson Health Center received \$700,000 in federal funding this week from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, as part of an \$850 million stimulus to aid community health centers nationwide. The funding will go to dental equipment, information technology and the renovation of office buildings... The Johnson Health Center has experienced a recent influx of people seeking free or reduced-price health care services in the wake of skyrocketing health care costs and a nationwide recession.” [*Lynchburg News & Advance*, 7/1/09]

\$23,970 *Recovery Act* grant supplied unprecedented resources to Frederick County community assistance programs. “An infusion of money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is helping Grace Community Church to expand its mobile soup kitchen. ‘We’re grateful and surprised,’ said Sandi Webster, children’s ministry and outreach coordinator for the 500-plus member Roosevelt Boulevard congregation. ‘We’re excited about what this will allow us to do.’ The church is being awarded \$11,255 in federal stimulus package funds through the Winchester/Frederick County Emergency Food and Shelter Board.” [*Winchester Star*, 6/26/09]

CORT reported that rentals are up due to *Recovery Act* projects. “Berkshire Hathaway’s CORT, Fairfax, Va., has seen rapid growth in demand for its rental services from federal agencies and contractors marshalling support for economic stimulus projects. Through the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*, billions of dollars in ‘shovel-ready’ projects are planned in every state for infrastructure, energy, education, healthcare and technology.” [*Home Furnishings Business*, 6/12/09]

Goochland School System will use *Recovery Act* funds to pay for three new positions. Will aid the county’s low-income and special education student populations. [*The Goochland Courier*, 6/3/09]

***Recovery Act* funds will help more than 70 Henry County teachers earn advanced degrees.** [*Martinsville Bulletin*, 6/3/09]

***Recovery Act* money will help fund a long-planned railroad crossing project in Manassas.** [*InsideNoVA.com*, 5/31/09]

Department of Education will release *Recovery Act* funds to help address the budget shortfalls being faced by Virginia’s education system. Could help save hundreds of teaching jobs in Virginia that are at risk of being lost as a result of state and local budget cuts. [*Bluefield Daily Telegraph*, 5/29/09]

Senator Webb: Virginia has received more than \$2 billion in *Recovery Act* funds to help maintain government services, invest in infrastructure, improve public facilities, and create or save more than 93,000 jobs in a range of industries. [*Martinsville Daily*, Editorial, 5/26/09]

Hampton Roads area allotted *Recovery Act* funding for numerous projects. Projects include live-scan fingerprinting equipment that Hampton police can use at crime scenes, a summer program employing 90 young people, and city road projects including resurfacing part of Mercury Boulevard. [*Hampton Roads Daily News*, 5/26/09]

Charlottesville schools will use *Recovery Act* to improve art center. *Recovery Act* will offset expenses on paying staffers. [*Daily Progress*, 5/22/09]

***Recovery Act* measure to reduce Small Business Administration fees.** Cork Wine Bar expedited loan application to expand building. [*Washington Business Journal*, 5/22/09]

Virginia will receive \$1.2 million in *Recovery Act* funds for rural community facility and first responder project. [*Bristol Herald Courier*, 5/20/09]

***Recovery Act* funds will revive several Virginia Beach road projects that had been delayed due to budget shortfalls.** “Absent the stimulus money, there's no way these could get done.” [*The Virginian-Pilot*, 5/20/09]

Augusta County will use *Recovery Act* grant to buy solar panels to power wastewater treatment plants, reducing costs, shrinking utilities bills. The ACSA projects are among 13 “green infrastructure” projects across the state that will make environmental improvements such as water re-use and alternative energy projects. [*The News Leader*, 5/19/09]

Virginia will use *Recovery Act* money to repave Interstate 95. Project “wouldn’t have happened without this funding.” [*The Free Lance-Star*, 5/17/09]

Virginia roadwork projects are expected to help local asphalt companies like Superior Paving avoid layoffs. Travelers will certainly benefit from the road work, but dozens of local men and women who mix the asphalt at plants, inspect it for strength and durability, drive trucks to the work sites, and even set up traffic cones would benefit as well. [*The Free Lance-Star*, 5/17/09]

Arlington County will receive nearly \$20 million in *Recovery Act* funding for projects including infrastructure and law enforcement. [*Washington Business Journal*, 5/18/09]

***Recovery Act* funding will help central Virginia youth summer job program expand from a dozen to 110 jobs.** [*Amherst New Era Progress*, 5/13/09]

***Recovery Act* funding will bring clean water and upgraded water systems to Boones Mill.** [*Roanoke Times*, 5/13/09]

Henry County and Martinsville will receive *Recovery Act* funds to supplement emergency food and shelter programs. [*Martinsville Bulletin*, 5/12/09]

About 950 teenagers and young adults in South Hampton Roads will go work this June, July and August, thanks to \$2.2 million from the *Recovery Act*. [*The Virginian-Pilot*, 5/11/09]

Roanoke Airport will use *Recovery Act* funds to buy more efficient explosives detectors. [*The Roanoke Times*, 5/9/09]

The John H. Kerr Reservoir will receive \$11 million in contracts through the *Recovery Act* for 15 water resource projects. Selection criteria required that projects be executed quickly and result in high, immediate employment. [*The Gazette-Virginian*, 5/6/09]