

July 18, 2016

The Honorable Liz Palmer  
Chair  
Albemarle County Board of Supervisors  
401 McIntire Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Received

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County of Albemarle  
Board of Supervisor's Office

Dear Liz:

The Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development (Partnership) is a nonprofit, public/private partnership of businesses, higher education institutions, and local governments. The organization serves as the regional economic development organization for all of Planning District 10 (Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson) and for 3 of 5 counties in Planning District 9 (Counties of Culpeper, Madison and Orange).

Over the past several months, the Partnership's Board has taken an active interest in the GO Virginia initiative. On December 18, 2015, Frank Atkinson, Chairman of McGuireWoods Consulting, gave an overview presentation to the Board and facilitated discussion on how our region could prepare to take advantage of the initiative. This year, the Board unanimously approved the attached resolution of support for GO Virginia on February 19. Chris Lloyd, Senior Vice President of McGuireWoods Consulting, gave an update to the Partnership Board on the legislation and potential next steps on April 22.

At the Partnership's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting on June 24, the Partnership Board adopted the recommendation of its GO Virginia Planning Team. Assuming that Planning Districts 9 and 10 are combined into one GO Virginia region, the Board has requested to serve as the lead organization for GO Virginia and, with required Board modifications, its Regional Council. The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission and the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission will provide regional planning coordination with the Regional Council and each Planning District Commission will have a seat on the Regional Council. The remaining seats on the Council will be determined once the guidelines are released in October.

We are writing to request that the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County supports the Central Virginia Partnership as the lead organization for GO Virginia should Planning Districts 9 and 10 be combined. As a regional economic development organization, the Partnership's main focus – fostering collaboration to promote economic growth and job creation in the region – aligns exactly with the GO Virginia initiative. The Partnership has led a successful collaboration of public, private and educational stakeholders for two decades and is uniquely positioned to foster the regional cooperation required to successfully executive GO Virginia. We are glad to answer any questions and look forward to partnering with Albemarle County to make GO Virginia in our region a success.

Best regards,



Helen Cauthen  
President  
Central Virginia Partnership  
for Economic Development



Chip Boyles  
Executive Director  
Thomas Jefferson Planning  
District Commission



Patrick Mauney  
Executive Director  
Rappahannock-Rapidan  
Regional Commission

cc: Tom Foley

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT**  
**Virginia Initiative for Growth & Opportunity**  
**GO Virginia**

WHEREAS, the Virginia Initiative for Growth and Opportunity in Each Region (GO Virginia) was initiated to encourage collaboration on private-sector growth and job creation by business, education, and government in each region; and

WHEREAS, the GO Virginia coalition's work is guided by three main points: (1) Virginia urgently needs strong private-sector growth; (2) Growth in Virginia's diverse regions requires collaboration; and (3) State government must be a catalyst and partner; and

WHEREAS, GO Virginia supports a voluntary, incentive-based approach as the best way to encourage regional cooperation on private-sector growth; and

WHEREAS, Governor Terry McAuliffe on December 17, 2015 announced his proposed Fiscal Years 2017-2018 state budget that included \$38.9 million in funding for the Growth and Opportunity Grants for GO Virginia; and


WHEREAS, the Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development's mission is to foster job creation and increase capital investment in the region. And, to achieve this mission, the Partnership collaborates with business, nine localities (the Counties of Albemarle, Culpeper, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa Madison, Nelson and Orange and the City of Charlottesville), and higher education (University of Virginia, Piedmont Virginia Community College, and Germanna Community College); and

WHEREAS, the Partnership agrees that the success and sustainability of Virginia's economic future depends on strong private-sector growth and supports state policies that encourage business, education, and local government to work together to create jobs and achieve shared economic development goals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development supports the GO Virginia initiative to strengthen Virginia's economy in each region.

Adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016 by the Board of Directors of the Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development being duly assembled.

ATTESTED:



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Steve M. Nichols  
Chairman  
Central Virginia Partnership for  
Economic Development