



ATTN: 2010 Achievement Awards Program
 Virginia Association of Counties
 1207 East Main Street, Suite 300
 Richmond, Va. 23219-3627

address service requested

Call for Entries



Application Form

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. Deadline: June 1, 2010.

Program Information

Locality York County

Program Title Development Facilitator

Program Category Community/Economic Development

Population Category 50,001-100,000

Contact Information

Name Milissa Story

Title Development Facilitator

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Signature of county administrator or chief administrative officer

Name _____

Title _____

Signature* _____

*Entries without this signature will not be accepted.

2010 VACo Award Application

York County Development Facilitator Position

As York County has grown from an agricultural community to a more residential and business community and as the region has grown, new developers, business owners and residents, not previously familiar with the ordinances and regulations, are doing business in York County. With this growth the need for a more complex ordinance to address emerging development issues arose. It became apparent that the complexities of the regulations created a need to have someone who can be pro-active and reach out to the business community to explain, interpret and guide the design professionals, developers and residents through the regulations, review and permitting process.

The Development Facilitator position is designed to educate and assist developers, residents, and business owners concerning the ordinances, regulations and review processes from their first contact with York County to their grand opening. The goal is to make the process easier to understand and navigate through in a timelier manner.

York County staff, elected officials and the Chamber of Commerce have pledged complete support and commitment to bettering the business climate in York County. As part of this commitment, the Development Facilitator position is focused on providing individual assistance to developers, business owners and residents as a to achieve the goals of bettering the business climate in the County. The goals of the Development Facilitator are as follows:

- Develop a rapport with the business community by attending York County Chamber of Commerce and other business community sponsored events and meetings.
- Work closely with the Office of Economic Development, in assisting new businesses relocating to York County.
- Meet with developers, business owners and residents during the conceptual state of their projects to educate them on the appropriate land use, any special requirements, regulations or overlay districts.
- Promote the use of the Development Guide, authored in conjunction with the Office of Economic Development and the Division of Development and Compliance and is an important tool providing information about the review process in a concise, user friendly format.

- Encourage the use, when appropriate, of the pre-application processes to provide a “fast-track” 21 day review for commercial development projects, rather than the normal 60 day review time frame.
- Maintain contact with the project application throughout the entire process from conceptual stage to grand opening.
- Provide pre-certificate of occupancy site compliance inspections for the project as requested by the developer or contractor to ensure the project is on the right track, helping to ensure the official certificate of occupancy inspection for site design and compliance is able to be approved smoothly and quickly.

Accomplishments achieved to date are:

- Assisted in the development of and participated in the York County's Developer's Training program (February 2010) to provide an educational opportunity for local area design professionals. The training reviewed the York County- specific development regulations and processes, provided updated information on ordinances and review top mistakes made in commercial development. Attendees received continuing education credits and are listed on the York County's websites as recommended companies doing business in York County.
- Worked closely with the Office of Economic Development, the Division of Development and Compliance and the Division of Computer Support Services to develop and maintain a “construction” layer for the existing on-line property map, accessed by the public. This new layer allows the public to see what

commercial or large residential projects have been approved and the future construction site of the project.

- The cost of implementing the Development Facilitator position is \$48,750 annually, but the results since implementation have equaled 900 developers, business owners and residents have been assisted by the Development Facilitator, with contacts increasing monthly as more members of the community become aware of and utilize the services provided. In 2009 projects that were assisted resulted in 22 new jobs and \$183,250.00 in new investment in York County.