

City of Alexandria, Virginia

31
5-14-02

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 8, 2002
TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL
FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUATION OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

ISSUE: Resolution by City Council to authorize the continuation of the Regional Partnership of Northern Virginia and to re-sanction the Partnership to represent the City.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council approve the resolution.

DISCUSSION: In 1996 the General Assembly approved the Regional Competitiveness Act to enhance economic competitiveness for all regions of the Commonwealth. The Act established incentive funds to encourage joint activities designed to address regional economic competitive needs. The Northern Virginia Regional Partnership has been in existence since 1997 and has made progress to strengthen and expand the region's workforce development initiatives, including creating the Regional Workforce Development Coordinating Center, funding new information technology training programs for adults and youth, creating the Northern Virginia IT Career Assistance Loan Program in collaboration with Sallie Mae, and other public-private initiatives.

The Regional Partnership of Northern Virginia includes the local governments within the boundaries of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (formerly the Northern Virginia Planning District Commission) and includes the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William; and the Towns of Dumfries, Herndon, Leesburg, and Vienna.

The Northern Virginia Regional Partnership must be re-certified every 5 years, and its Executive Committee has agreed to seek re-certification with the State Regional Competitiveness Program, administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The re-certification application is due to the State on May 31, 2002. This re-certification process will entitle the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership to continue to receive a small amount of statewide Regional Incentive Funding and to apply for statewide Workforce Services Funding.

FISCAL IMPACT: Only a small portion (approximately \$100,000) of the original Regional Incentive Funding (\$6 million) is included in the State's FY 2003 - FY 2004 Biennial budget;

however, there is approximately \$2 million available statewide through the Workforce Services Fund, to which only Regional Partnerships can apply. Because the Northern Virginia jurisdictions include approximately 26 percent of the State's population, it is anticipated that the Partnership would receive at least 26 percent, or approximately \$520,000, of the \$2 million Workforce Services Fund. The consensus of the Partnership remains, as was originally, that there will be no solicitation of contributions from local governments.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1. Proposed Resolution

STAFF:

Mark Jinks, Assistant City Manager for Fiscal and Financial Affairs

Gene Swearingen, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Carol Moore, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget

RESOLUTION No. _____

WHEREAS, national research has demonstrated that in areas around the country where localities and regional leaders work cooperatively, economic competitiveness is enhanced;

WHEREAS, the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia, as enacted into law in 1996, supports a more economically competitive Commonwealth by encouraging defined geographic areas to form regional partnerships that include local government, business, education and civic leaders;

WHEREAS, the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia challenges each regional partnership to chart a course for improved economic competitiveness through the development and adoption of a Regional Strategic Economic Development Plan in Northern Virginia, the strategic focus has centered on regional workforce development, particularly targeting information technology jobs;

WHEREAS, the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia also encourages the local governments within each regional partnership to recognize existing cooperative activities and agreements, and to establish new cooperative activities and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership has been in existence since 1997 and has made progress to strengthen and expand the region's workforce development initiatives, including creating the Regional Workforce Development Coordinating Center, funding new information technology training programs for adults and youth, creating the Northern Virginia IT Career Assistance Loan Program in collaboration with Sallie Mae, and other public-private initiatives. The adoption of a new cooperative activities and agreements in compliance with the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia, shall entitle the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership to continue to receive statewide Regional Incentive Funding and to apply for statewide Workforce Services Funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Alexandria, a political subdivision located within the geographic boundaries of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, authorizes the continued activities of the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership; and

FURTHERMORE, be it resolved that the City of Alexandria sanctions the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership to represent the City of Alexandria as it endeavors to enhance the economic competitiveness of the region in compliance with the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia.

FURTHERMORE, be it resolved that the City of Alexandria agrees to apportion the share of the State Regional Incentive Funds appropriated to the individual and representative member local governments of the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership by a formula, whereby each member local government shall receive funds equal to the percentage of the population total for all the member local governments of the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership; and the City of

Alexandria agrees to dedicate its annual appropriation of State Regional Incentive Funds to the identified projects promoted by the region to establish a well-trained workforce; and that the City of Alexandria further agrees that Northern Virginia Community College will continue to be the fiscal agent for these funds.

ADOPTED:

KERRY J. DONLEY MAYOR

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 2028

WHEREAS, national research has demonstrated that in areas around the country where localities and regional leaders work cooperatively, economic competitiveness is enhanced;

WHEREAS, the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia, as enacted into law in 1996, supports a more economically competitive Commonwealth by encouraging defined geographic areas to form regional partnerships that include local government, business, education and civic leaders;

WHEREAS, the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia challenges each regional partnership to chart a course for improved economic competitiveness through the development and adoption of a Regional Strategic Economic Development Plan in Northern Virginia, the strategic focus has centered on regional workforce development, particularly targeting information technology jobs;

WHEREAS, the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia also encourages the local governments within each regional partnership to recognize existing cooperative activities and agreements, and to establish new cooperative activities and agreements;

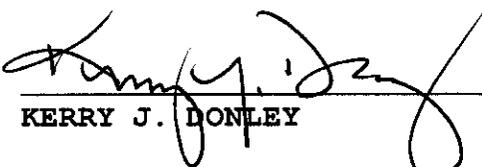
WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership has been in existence since 1997 and has made progress to strengthen and expand the region's workforce development initiatives, including creating the Regional Workforce Development Coordinating Center, funding new information technology training programs for adults and youth, creating the Northern Virginia IT Career Assistance Loan Program in collaboration with Sallie Mae, and other public-private initiatives. The adoption of new cooperative activities and agreements in compliance with the Regional Competitiveness Act of Virginia, shall entitle the Northern Virginia Regional Partnership to continue to receive statewide Regional Incentive Funding and to apply for statewide Workforce Services Funding;

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