

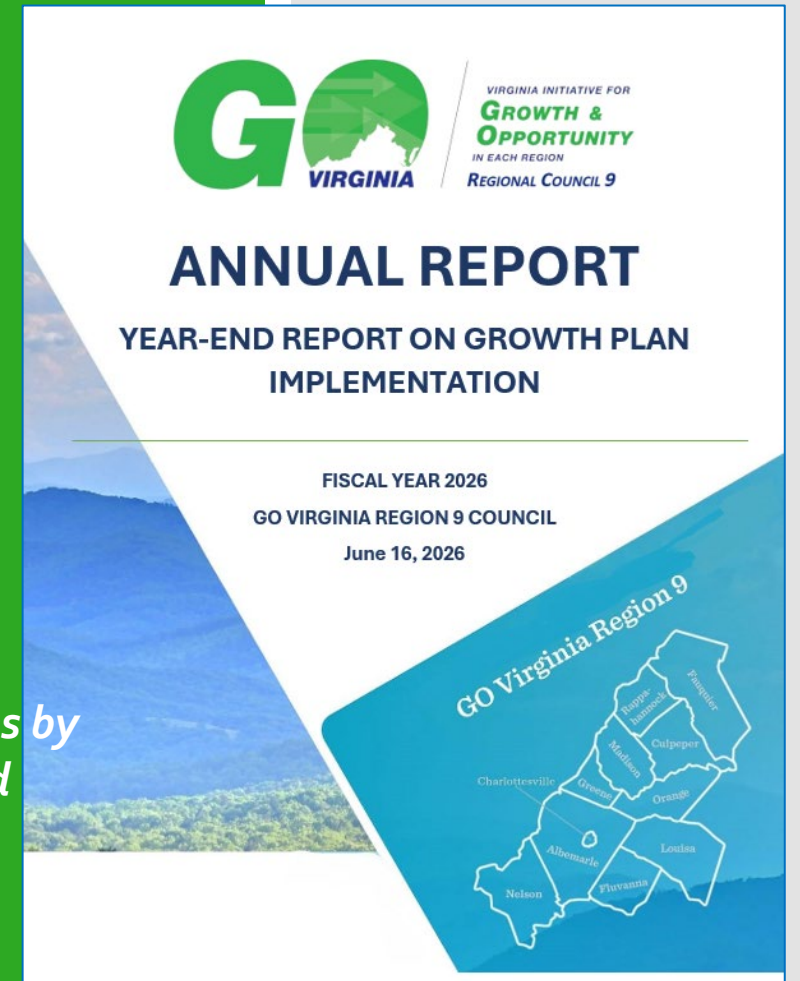
# Annual Report

## Region 9 Growth Plan Implementation

*How have Council activities advanced the Growth Plan?*

Presented to the Region 9 Council on June 16, 2026

*Create high-paying private sector jobs by awarding grants for regional priorities by incentivizing collaboration between education, local government, business and workforce organizations*



# Growth & Diversification Plan - 2025

20

Grant Opportunities Identified

9

Opportunities Advancing in FY 2026

3

New Grant Awards

## Target Sectors (5)



Biosciences



Financial & Business Services



Food & Beverage Mfg.



IT & Communications



Light Manufacturing

## Program Strategies (4)



Entrepreneurship



Growing Existing Businesses



Site Readiness



Talent Development

FY 2026: 9 of 20 opportunities advancing — 6 in Talent Development, 3 in Grow Existing Business.

## 3 New Grants Awarded in FY 2026

Serving Region 9	GO Virginia Funds	Locality Match	Non-Locality Match	Other Leverage
Expanding GO TEC Career Pathways in Region 9	\$ 1,016,000	\$ 767,210	\$ -	\$ -
Food & Beverage Accelerator	\$ 262,192	\$ 120,000	\$ 11,308	\$ 23,000

Multi-Regional	GO Virginia Funds	Locality Match	Non-Locality Match	Other Leverage
AI Mobile Unit for Workforce & Education (Region 6 & 9)	\$ 1,079,109	\$ 40,985	\$ 498,745	\$ --

Each grant was funded through a different pathway.

# FY 2026 Funded Projects

*How three new awards advance the Region 9 Growth Plan*

## GO TEC Career Pathways

### Strategy

Talent Development

### Target Sectors

Biosciences, IT & Communications, Light Manufacturing

### Projected Outcomes

**3,126** students trained; **7 new** programs implemented

### Led by

Albemarle County

## AI Mobile Unit

Workforce & Education (Regions 6 & 9)

### Strategy

Talent Development

### Target Sectors

Financial & Business Services, IT & Communications, Light Manufacturing

### Projected Outcomes

**2,080** people trained, **20** businesses served, **280** credentials earned, **100** dual-enrollment students

### Led by

Cyber Bytes Foundation

## Food & Beverage Accelerator

### Strategy

Grow Existing Businesses

### Target Sectors

Food & Beverage Manufacturing

### Projected Outcomes

**10** jobs, **16** businesses expanded, **16** businesses served, **\$150K** total capital raised

### Led by

Venture Central

*Three new FY 2026 awards advance Talent Development and Grow Existing Businesses strategies across nine localities.*

**Since 2016**

GO Virginia Region 9

## Funding & General Outcomes

**35**

Grants Awarded

**\$13.3 M**

Total Funds Awarded

**\$14.3M**

Funds Leveraged

**Leverage Mix:** Locality match \$6.8M • Non-locality match \$4.6M • Additional leverage \$2.0M

**By strategy:** Grow Existing Business \$5.9M • Talent Development \$3.3M • Entrepreneurship \$1.9M • Sites \$1.1M

**Outcomes (through Apr 30, 2026):** 2,400+ businesses served and 1,500+ jobs created across four strategies

*Totals exclude AI Mobile Unit funds (multi-regional grant).*

## Engaging with Local Government

- All 11 localities have been served by active and/or new projects.
- Four projects served all localities



# Engaging with Education

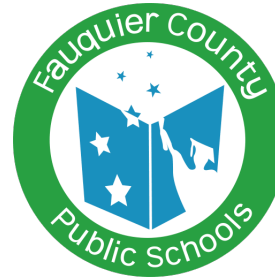
## University



## Community Colleges



## Public Schools



## Engaging with Business

33 new businesses engaged

Since program inception, the Council has engaged:

98

Businesses

15

Education Institutions

16

Government Partners

37

Non-Profits / Other

166 organizations engaged across Region 9

# Region 9 Impact

## What we track to measure success

The 2025 Growth Plan added four annual-report metrics to evaluate Council impact.

**Employment &  
Wage Growth**

*Region 9 vs.  
Virginia trend*

**Business  
Announcements**

*Jobs and capital  
investment*

**Outcomes  
Committed  
vs. Actual**

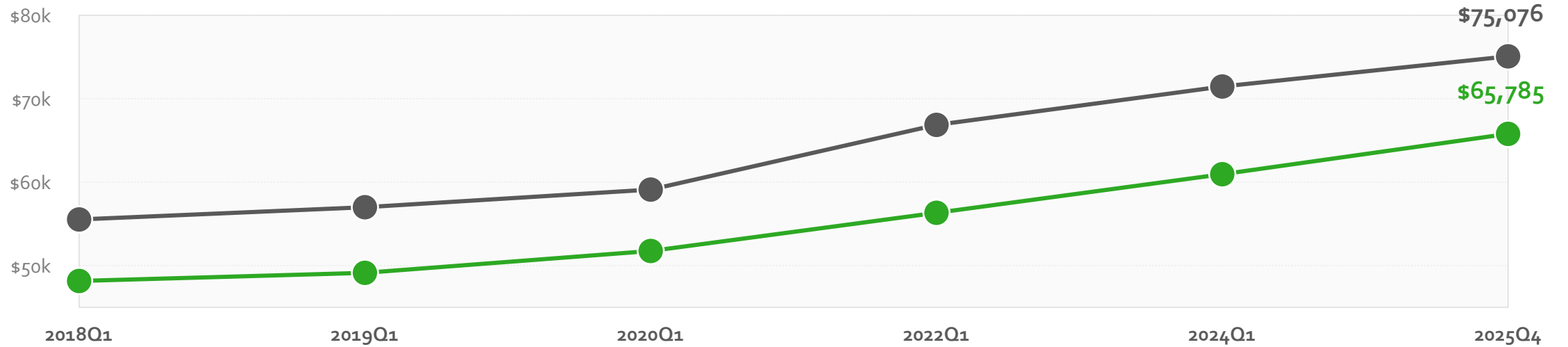
*Delivery against  
promise*

**Outcomes by  
Strategy YTD**

*Active projects  
to date*

Region 9 wages grew **37%** since 2018, tracking Virginia's 35%.

■ Region 9 ■ Virginia



**Average Annual Wages**

Sector	Company	Investment	County	Jobs
Biosciences	Astra Zeneca	\$4.5B	Albemarle	600
Financial & Business Services	Edgecore	\$17B	Louisa	NR*
Manufacturing	L3Harris	\$1.27B	Orange	350
Energy	Tenaska	\$ 2B	Fluvanna	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 projects</b>	<b>\$24.77B</b>	<b>4 counties</b>	<b>979+</b>

**Region 9 Business Announcements (FY 2026):  
Job Commitment and Capital Investment  
Related Announcements:**

\*NR- not reported

Sector	Employment Growth, 5-year avg	Employment Growth Projection 1 year	Average Wages	Wage Growth Over 1 Year
Biosciences	3.7%	0.7%	\$101,878	0.9%
Financial & Business Services	0.8%	0.3%	\$84,519	3.8%
Food & Beverage Manufacturing	5.2%	0.9%	\$39,461	0.6%
IT & Communications	1.8%	0.9%	\$109,114	5.9%
Light Manufacturing	-0.1%	0.5%	\$67,596	2.4%
All Sectors	1.5%	0.4%	\$65,785	4.6%

## Industry Snapshot, 2025Q3

Source: JobsEQ

# FY 2026 Highlights

## Engagement

- Served 11 localities
- Engaged all 3 community colleges, UVA, and 6 new school systems
- Involved 33 new businesses
- Included Council Members in project site visits

## Strategy & Leadership

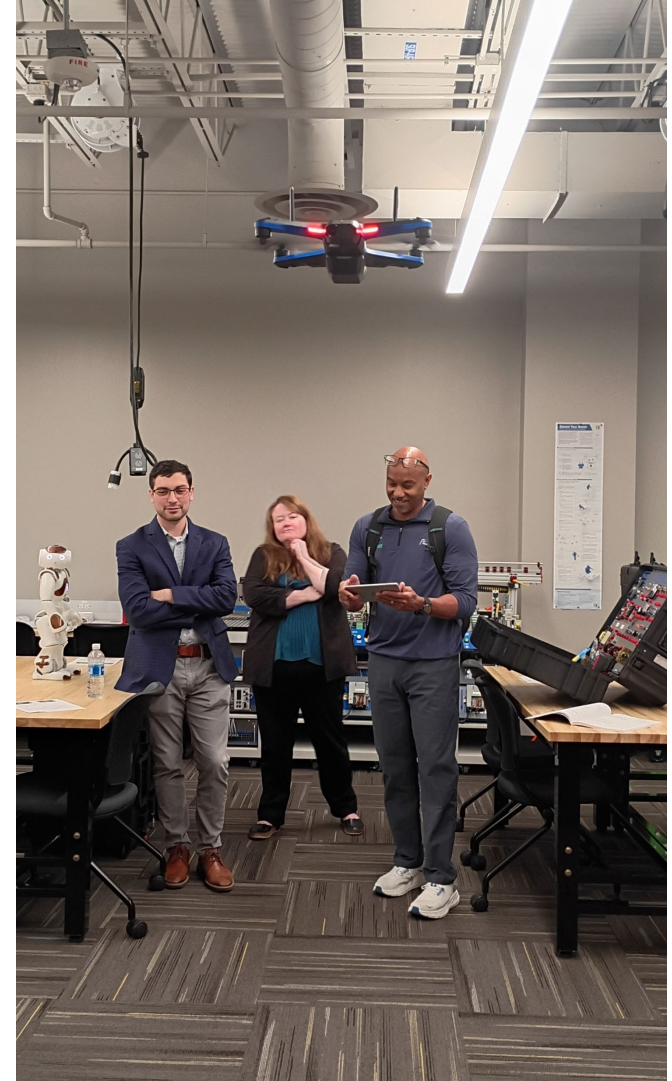
- Published the 2025 Growth Plan
- Created new Council Member Manual
- Presented Region 9 methodology to Board committee
- Contributed to the AI Landscape Assessment

## Funding & Governance

- Awarded 102% of FY 26 per-capita allocation
- Advanced 9 of 20 Growth Plan opportunities
- Secured first statewide competitive award
- Held 15 Council and Committee meetings

# Looking Forward to FY 2027

- 5-7 projects in the pipeline
- 10-year Region 9 Anniversary
- Growth Plan Update
- Five Active Projects:
  - AI Mobile Unit for Workforce & Education
  - Expanding GO TEC Career Pathways In Region 9
  - Project VITAL: Commonwealth Bio Accelerator
  - Food & Beverage Accelerator
  - Wine Industry Implementation Grant



Thank you!