

CEDS Committee Meeting

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

We'll get started shortly!

Presented by: Alex Tranmer and Dan Gundersen

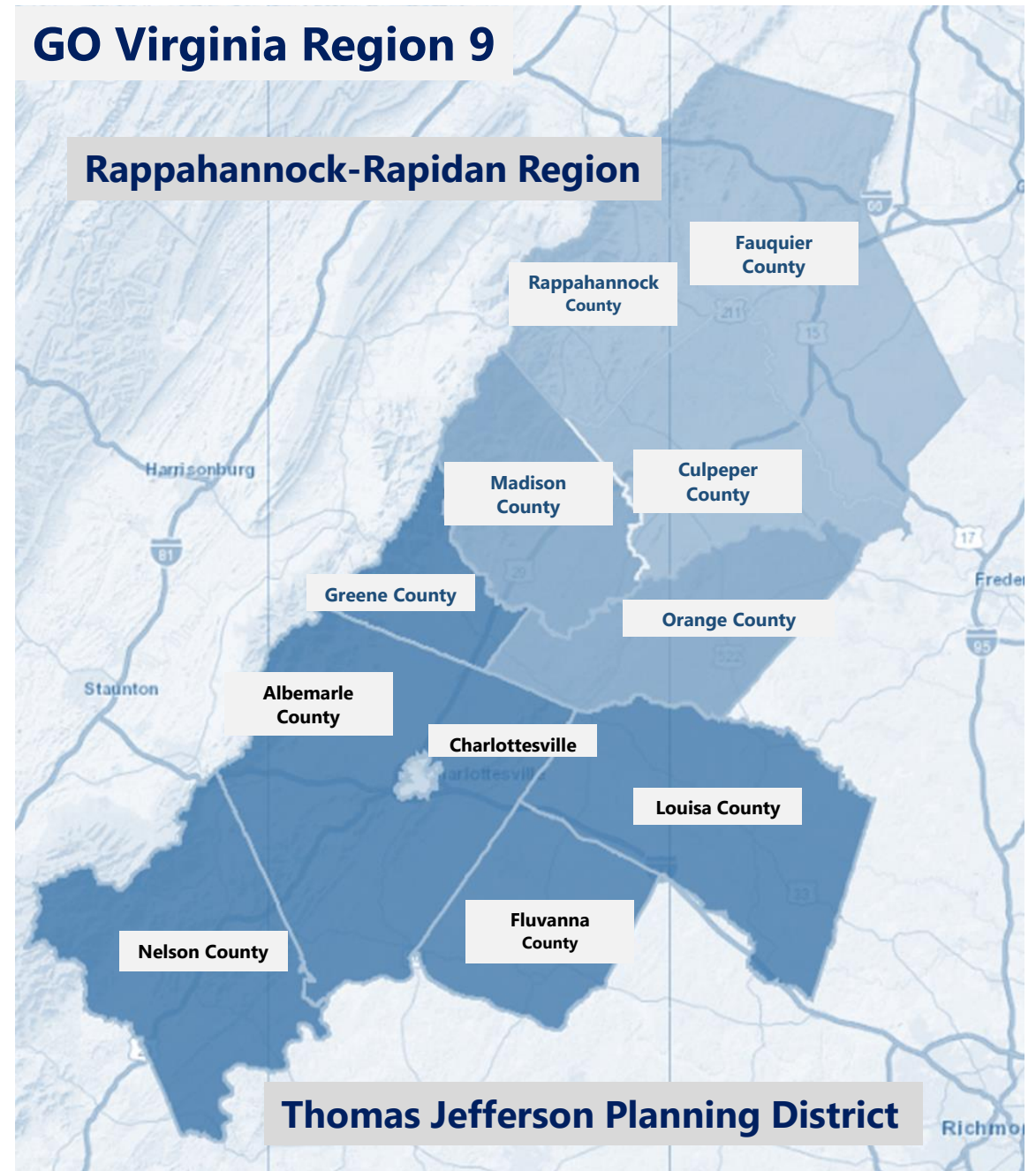
Oct. 2, 2023



Objectives

- Get clarity on areas of emphasis and overlap (interview themes)
- Discuss resilience and vulnerability data
- Review EDA priorities
- Give an update on distribution of business survey
- Talk about next steps

GO Virginia Region 9



INTERVIEW THEMES

The following slide shows an assessment of each county by topics that are important to the CEDS. These assessments are intended to help direct strategy development and will not necessarily be included in the report.

County Stakeholder Input



High perceived need and/or opportunity for growth



Moderate perceived need and/or opportunity for growth



Low perceived need and/or opportunity for growth

	Rappahannock	Madison	Orange	Culpeper	Fauquier
State of the local economy (Business vitality, tax revenue, etc.)					
Industry diversity (Mix of businesses and amenities, etc.)					
Risks to economy (Supply chains, resilience, growth issues/pressures, etc.)					
Infrastructure availability (Ease of access, condition of, major systems, etc.)					
Climate / Environmental Sus. (Natural resources, development balance, etc.)					
ED Resources / Partners (In/external dynamics, level of collaboration among partners in education, workforce, etc)					

What We Learned From Visits

Shared Themes

- **Infrastructure**
 - Water / sewer
 - Stress on energy demands
- **Workforce workforce workforce**
- **Development vs. Conservation** (water concerns)
- **Tourism** as an economic driver and quality of life enhancements for residents - lodging market
- **Entrepreneurship** - Scaling up small business
- **Support for agriculture** - value-added
- **Housing** – low inventory, some evening out, impact business development
- **Healthcare** – continuum of care

Opportunities Related to CEDS

- Establish priority zones for infrastructure build-out centered around industry – also identify water issues
- Use smart growth principles
- Identify assets to support the build-out of tourism, recreation, and quality of place
- Work on site development plans
- Support agriculture diversification + exploration of tourism
- Sector workforce strategies - increase private sector engagement, build within industries where it is working
- Work with GO VA plan

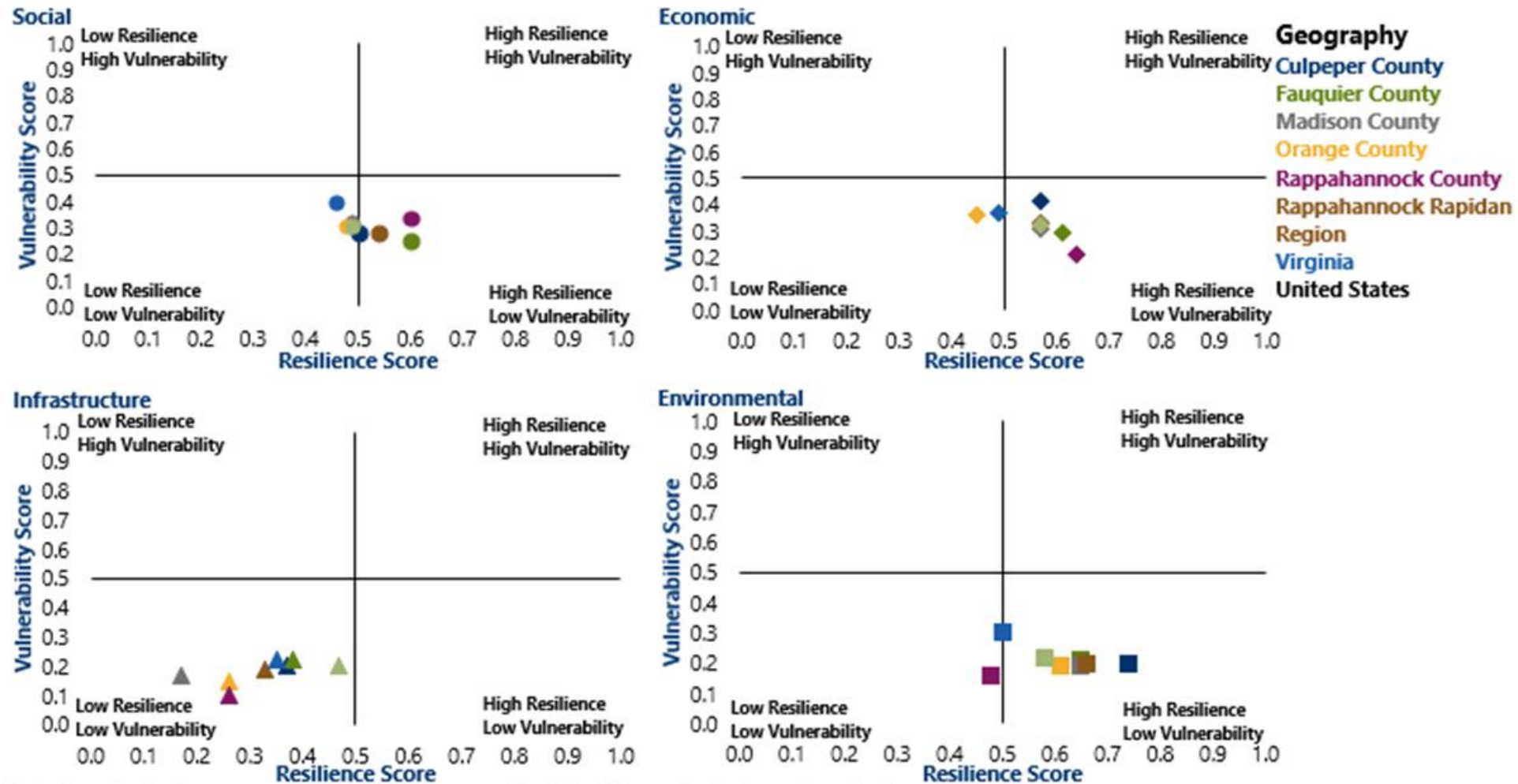
Resilience & Vulnerability in RRRC

- **Social** : social and human capital
- **Economic** : strengths and vulnerabilities of local economy
- **Infrastructure** : ability to withstand and repair infrastructure following disasters
- **Environmental** : Likelihood and anticipated impact of a natural disaster

This data on the follow slides represent a snapshot of data analysis in the Resilience and Vulnerability report. Full analysis and data indicators can be found for each locality and the region in the report.

Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Resilience

Community Resilience and Vulnerability Scores, Rappahannock-Rapidan Region



Note: State-level values are population-weighted averages. The United States value is the median value for all counties.
Source: University of Missouri Community Resilience Assessment Tool

MORE RESILIENCE

(indicators that increase capacity for resilience)

Social

- Higher home ownership
- Higher share of longer-term residents (> 1 year)
- Higher Voter participation rate

Infrastructure

- Emergency response occupations
- Evacuation routes

Economic

- Proprietor employment
- Employment diversity
- Proprietor income

Environmental

- Environmental diversity

LESS RESILIENCE

Social

- Lower share of residents with college degrees
- Lower Life expectancy

Infrastructure

- Access to emergency facilities
- Access to grocery stores
- Access to medical professionals

Economic

- New business starts
- Labor force participation rate

Environmental

- n/a

LESS VULNERABLE

(indicators that are a liability for resilience)

Social

- Linguistic isolation
- Violent crime rate
- Poverty rate

Economic

- Cost-burdened households
- Unemployment rate

Infrastructure

- Share of pop. with motor vehicles
- Fewer mobile homes
- Distance from nuclear power facility

Environmental

- Distance from levees
- Diversity of storm events

MORE VULNERABLE

Social

- Higher share of population 65+
- Higher share of population <18
- Share of population disabled

Infrastructure

- Distance to major dams
- Share of unsafe drinking water

Economic

- Share of employment in extractive industries (agriculture/forestry is included)
- Business vacancy rate

Environmental

- Likelihood of droughts
- Likelihood of seismic hazards
- Severe storm events

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

What themes are we seeing emerge from data and engagement?

✔ Potential Goal Areas

- **Workforce Development**
- **Small Business and Entrepreneurship**
- **Housing**
- **Placemaking**
- **Business Environment**
- **Organizing for Action**

✔ Principles

- Collaboration
- Common vision
- Equity among outcomes
- Support existing industry
- Celebrate incremental wins
- Mutual support and work
- Solution – focused
- Realistic
- Holistic
- Support range of occupations/
jobs

✔ EDA Investment Priorities

- Equity
- Recovery & Resilience
- Workforce Development
- manufacturing,
- Technology-Based Economic Development,
- Environmentally Sustainable Development
- Exports & FDI

Diversity includes all the ways in which people differ, encompassing the different characteristics that make one individual or group different from another. This includes, but is not limited to: race, color, gender expression, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, language(s), mental or physical ability, age, political perspective, veteran status, education, marital status, and learning styles. We recognize that many people affiliate with multiple identities.

Equity is the fair treatment, access, opportunity and advancement for all people, while at the same time striving to identify and eliminate barriers that have prevented the full participation of some individuals or groups. We believe this is attainable when it's built on respect and it's a process that begins by acknowledging an unequal starting place and making a commitment to correct and address the imbalance. We will work together to identify and eliminate barriers that may prevent equality for everyone.

Inclusion is a sense of belonging and the outcome when everyone authentically feels welcomed, valued, supported, and able to fully participate so that they can do their best at work.

*Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement.
June 2021.*

BUSINESS SURVEY

RRRC is initiating a business survey to help collect real time information for the CEDS. The survey will be open until Oct.15.

Rappahannock-Rapidan Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Business Survey



The Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission is preparing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that establishes a vision for the region's economic development programs and projects over the next five years. In order to best inform the strategies going forward, we're engaging employers and other key stakeholders to fully understand the issues and opportunities facing businesses throughout the region. Your responses to this survey will directly inform what needs to be prioritized within the current business climate and aid in developing strategies going forward. Your answers will be kept anonymous and data will only be reported in the aggregate. This 14 question survey should take about 10 minutes to answer. We appreciate your time!

Note that the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission is also undertaking this survey for their region. If you are a business in Greene, Albemarle, Louisa, Nelson, or Fluvanna Counties or in Charlottesville, you can answer the survey at this link:

<https://camoin.surveyparrot.com/s/TJPDC-CEDS-Business-Survey-/tt-r8wXF3msrXKJZxHPZuLKnt>

NEXT STEPS

- ✓ • **Promote business survey** – will close Oct. 15th
- Share and distribute results
- Build strategies
- Share concepts / framework in December based on findings to date
 - Discuss and refine with CEDS Committee and others