

Foundation Principles of Virginia's Region 2000 Partnership

Whereas, Virginia's Region 2000 Partnership was established to coordinate regional programs and activities that will improve the region's economic opportunity and livability for its residents, businesses, institutions, and local governments; and,

Whereas, Virginia's Region 2000 Partnership serves as the focal point for regional policy development and serves as a valued resource to its residents, businesses, institutions, and local governments; and,

Whereas, Virginia's Region 2000 Partnership seeks to set forth certain foundation principles to guide and direct the operating relationships among its partner organizations while recognizing and respecting each organization's individual mission and stakeholders.

Now, therefore be it agreed that each organization constituting Virginia's Region 2000 Partnership will do those things necessary to achieve the following:

1. Strategic Planning

- a. Commit sufficient staff resources to develop, implement, and maintain a strategic plan.
- b. Align its strategic plan with the Region 2000 Partnership's strategic plan as adopted by the Partnership Coordinating Committee.
- c. Demonstrate and periodically report along with appropriate measurements on the status of the strategic plan.
- d. Provide representatives to actively serve on the Partnership Coordinating Committee.

2. Administration and Management

- a. Actively contribute to inter-partnership activities through predictable and regular participation. Such activities will include, but are not limited to, the Partnership Coordinating Committee and the annual Region 2000 Partnership meeting.
- b. Regularly communicate and consult with all partner organizations on matters which may significantly affect the individual organization, other partnership organizations, or the foundation principles set forth herein.
- c. Provide staff support and material resources as needed and appropriate to assist other partner organizations with daily operations and the development, implementation, and delivery of existing or new products, programs, or services. Such staff support and material resources will be upon request and will comply with any funding restriction, regulation, or law as may apply.

3. Product and Service Development and Delivery

- a. Ensure that expanded or new products, programs, and services are aligned and coordinated with the strategic plans of the other partner organizations and the Region 2000 Partnership.
- b. Collaborate as appropriate with other partner organizations on the development, implementation, and delivery of expanded or new products, programs, and services.

4. Finance and Fund Raising

- a. Provide funding sufficient to implement the individual partner organization's strategic plan subject to available financial resources and staffing capacities.

- b. Participate in and support as appropriate a coordinated, multi-year, and comprehensive Partnership fundraising campaign developed and managed by the Economic Development Council.
- c. Expend funds raised through the multi-year campaign on operational and program expenses aligned and in keeping with the strategic plans of the partner organization and the Region 2000 Partnership. A partner organization may not raise funds outside of the multi-year campaign from entities that have or are participating in the multi-year campaign. Funds raised by a partner organization for individual and unique projects or activities are excluded from this prohibition. For example, fees or other similar charges for individual or group memberships, placements of logos or advertisements, event sponsorships, research projects, and the like.

5. Branding, Marketing, and Communications

- a. Promote through coordinated branding, marketing, and communications the Region 2000 Partnership and other individual partner organizations as appropriate.
- b. Collaborate and coordinate on the development, implementation, management, and delivery of marketing materials and services.
- c. Comply in good faith with all guidelines and policies which support and are in keeping with the brand of the Region 2000 Partnership and its individual partner organizations. Such guidelines and policies will be adopted by each partner organization as evidence of the good faith compliance.
- d. Participate and collaborate on the Region 2000 Partnership newsletter, the Region 2000 Partnership annual report, and other similar communication and marketing activities and products as may be developed from time to time.
- e. In the event a partner organization develops a subsidiary organization or associates with another organization to sponsor a program or activity, then the partner organization will consult with the other partner organizations to develop branding guidelines and policies as may be appropriate to support the brand of the Region 2000 Partnership.

6. Partner Organization Operations

- a. Develop, adopt, implement, and maintain administrative, auditing, and legal policies and practices which are consistent with those of the Local Government Council. For example, the Local Government Council's Personnel Rules and Regulations, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, generally accepted auditing standards, and other similar administrative, auditing, and legal policies and practices.
- b. Utilize the administrative services of the Local Government Council unless it can be demonstrated by the partner organization that efficiency and cost-effectiveness can be achieved otherwise. Such administrative services will include, but are not limited, to accounting, finance, payroll, procurement, human services, equipment, and facilities.

7. Dispute Resolution

- a. Each partner organization has the ability through its Executive Director to question or inquire whether an action or actions by another partner organization is in conformity or compliance with these foundation principles.
- b. Each partner organization through its Executive Director will jointly consult with the other partner organization Executive Directors to determine whether such action or actions conform or comply with these foundation principles. This consultation and the following determination will be done in a timely manner.
- c. In the event an Executive Director is aggrieved by the determination of the other Executive Directors or such a determination cannot be made by the Executive Directors,

the matter may be referred to the Partnership Coordinating Committee for guidance and direction. The referral to the Partnership Coordinating Committee and its action on the referral will be done in a timely manner.

- d. The Board of Directors of a partner organization retains the ability to intervene in the place of its Executive Director under the provisions of Section 7.a, 7.b, and 7.c.