

August Director Report

Work continues on the IDA **Strategic Plan**. The evening of July 12th there was a workshop with Commonwealth Preservation Group to review and provide input. The IDA Board of Directors has received this information and given the opportunity to give feedback.

On July 31st. I met with Senatorial Candidate Emily Brewer and Delegate Otto Wachsmann at the I-85 Park to provide them both with an update on IDA Agricultural Park. It was a very good conversation. Both of them have very good insight into farming and the issues facing Rural Communities. If any candidate would like to gain some insight or questions on the IDA Strategic Plan I am glad to meet with any of them. I have already had some very good conversations with many candidates for Local and State offices.

The **Rise and Shine** program will be extended to 2 meetings per month. Laverne added a time later in the day, this allows for more small businesses, stakeholders and students to participate in the program. Laverne met with County Staff last month to discuss the next steps for the program. Laverne and I along with County Staff met with Lauren Mathena from MBL to ensure that the program offers the best services that it can. We invite everyone to attend the Rise and Shine events. Please come to learn, teach or share. This is a wonderful opportunity to network and enjoy fellowship. Schedules will be posted on the IDA website www.bcida.org

Master Planning in July I have been meeting with our Engineer and consultants to discuss master planning for the IDA Industrial Parks. The primary focus is on the I85 Agriculture Park. As we begin the build out of this park I need to make sure that the infrastructure is carefully considered. I am concerned based on the volume and intensity of interest in the AG park concept we may run into an issue with space. I certainly do not want to waste space. Master planning includes meeting with the Department of Environmental Quality, VDOT, the Virginia Rail Authority and others. Meetings are focused on the best use of the land, potential funding, best proactive and the highest and best use of the property. We must design projects considering our current. It is very important that we consider Environmental, Social and Governance when determining the highest and best use for our properties.

In addition to the work on the Master planning for our parks I am meeting with Dominion Energy, VA Clean Cities, Columbia Gas and other utility companies to inventory and market the available services at our properties. I look forward to upcoming meeting with Lawrenceville and the County to find solutions to water and wastewater availability for our continued growth.

Dominion Transmission and Substation Project Update the Dominion Team is preparing for Construction with a focus on permitting, surveying, real estate and finalizing our engineering. Prior to construction beginning we will send our neighbors project updates. Construction activity is anticipated construction activity to begin 2024 with energization in mid-2025.