Draft Central Virginia Regional Housing Partnership: Strategic Plan

I. **Executive Summary:** This draft plan follows extensive organizational work on the part of the Central Virginia Regional Housing Partnership (CVRHP) to identify needs in the community and create an action plan to close the regional 14,000 unit/intervention gap for affordable housing. Elements of this plan were taken from the CVRHP's Statement of Objectives, from the Strategic Planning Retreat Report (Aug. 30, 2019), and from the RHP strategic plan discussion on October 15th, 2019.

II. **Organizational Description**: The CVRHP serves as an official advisory board, created by the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, in partnership with the public, private, nonprofit, and citizen stakeholders. Composed of an overarching consortium of housing interests, the Partnership will enhance regional coordination and effectiveness to address the housing needs of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District's region, with a focus on housing production, diversity, accessibility, cost, location, design, and increasing stability for the region's residents.

III. **Mission:** The Central Virginia Regional Housing Partnership exists to facilitate regional coordination to ensure access to housing for all.

IV. **Vision:** A 100% alignment of supply and demand of housing opportunities throughout the region so that every resident can find access to safe, decent, affordable housing in communities of their choice.

V. **Objectives:** The primary objectives of the CVRHP are to address unmet housing needs and preserve housing affordability.

To do so, the Partnership will utilize the Comprehensive Regional Housing Study and Needs Analysis to identify and support strategies to bring about the alignment of policy, funding, and programming in order to close the 14,000 affordable housing needs gap (units and interventions) and create a dynamic housing system in the region.

In order to support meeting the primary objectives, the Partnership will pursue the following opportunities:

1. Improve the collaboration across jurisdictional lines based on a common vision.
2. Further the relationship between localities.
3. Promote the inclusion of Transportation, Workforce Development, and Opportunities for Healthy Living into decisions about housing.
4. Advocate for the integration of housing into other decision making.

DRAFT

VI. Key Deliverables:

1. Develop a plan for education, outreach, and community engagement to support the development and implementation of regional housing strategies.
2. Create a holistic Regional Housing Plan by September 2020.
3. Develop metrics to evaluate progress over time on the strategies within the Regional Housing Plan by September 2020.
4. Create a consolidated regional policy platform for legislators to bring to the General Assembly in support of the regional housing strategies for the 2021 Legislative Session.

VII. Initial Action Plan:

1. *Develop a plan for education, outreach, and community engagement to support the development and implementation of regional housing strategies.*

   Activities:

   a. Develop a plan for listening to residents to develop and revise the Regional Housing Plan.
      Team Members: Strategies and Analysis Committee
      i. Hold housing-related stakeholder meetings and citizen community engagement meetings in each jurisdiction and deploy a digital and paper regional housing survey in each jurisdiction.

   b. Hold an annual Regional Housing Summit.
      Team Members: Regional Housing Events Committee
      - Key Goals: Educate elected officials, locality staff, housing practitioners and community members on regional housing needs, best practices in affordable housing, and innovations in policy and programming for addressing housing needs; facilitate regional coordination to develop strategies for meeting housing needs.

   c. Create a regional website.
      Team Members: Website Committee
      - Key Goals: Provide educational content/regional resources; Create links to available housing stock; Create a portal for residents to inform RHP and decision makers about housing challenges; Create access to and receive feedback on a regional housing legislative agenda.

2. *Create a holistic Regional Housing Plan for consideration by the TJPDC by September 2020.*

   Activities:

   a. Develop a Regional Housing Plan that includes recommended housing chapters for each county and a regional housing component that compliments and supports the counties' plans.
      Team Members: Analysis and Strategies Committee
      - Key Goals: Adopt a regional approach to housing provision and preservation that enables the right housing choices in the right places and that adds up to a reduction in regional housing deficit.

DRAFT

b. Review zoning codes, comprehensive plans and other key policy documents in the region.
   Team Members: Analysis and Strategies Committee
   - Key Goals: To identify regional zoning and regulatory barriers to affordable housing.

c. Work with staff to identify zoning and regulatory requirement that present barriers to healthy living.
   Team Members: Analysis and Strategies Committee
   - Key Goals: To develop solutions to address zoning and regulatory barriers to healthy living.

3. *Develop metrics to evaluate progress over time on the strategies within the Regional Housing Plan by September 2020.*

Activities:

a. Develop clear metrics for each sector of the housing system.
   Team Members: Strategies and Analysis Committee
   - Key Goals: Ensure measurable progress on the regional strategies to address housing needs

b. Develop a dashboard to report on progress over time.
   Team Members: Strategies and Analysis Committee
   - Key Goal: Make information accessible to the community.

4. *Create a consolidated regional policy platform for legislators to bring to the General Assembly in support of the regional housing strategies for the 2021 Legislative Session.*

Activities:

a. Review 2020 Legislative Priorities to identify common initiatives.
   Team Members: Executive Committee
   - Key Goals: Identify regional housing legislative priorities.

b. Develop regional legislative priorities that align and/or overlap with jurisdictional legislative priorities.
   Team Members: Executive Committee
   - Key Goals: Impact legislation in 2021

c. Create a legislative round table.
   Team Members: Executive Committee
   - Key Goals: Have an ongoing forum to update legislative platform as new ideas emerge and as necessary enabling legislation is identified in code audits; Help municipalities achieve the tools they need to realize their goals around zoning and policy related to affordable housing.

d. Develop a plan to regularly engage legislators from Region 10.
   Team Members: Executive Committee
   - Key Goals: Sponsorship and support of key legislation.

DRAFT