

Goal 6: In coordination with hazard mitigation efforts focused on individuals and the larger community, proactively prepare businesses and components of our regional supply chains for possible economic and environmental disruptions.

Economic resilience aims to better prepare regions to anticipate, withstand, and bounce back from any type of shock, disruption, or stress it may experience. The Richmond region is in an enviable position having a diverse economic base that is not overly dependent on a single industry or sector. Activities that prepare the region to sustain public services and business operations in face of economic downturns, restructuring, or natural disasters are essential.

Strategy 6.1. Educate businesses on potential risks within different parts of our region and collaborate on business preparedness efforts.

Actions	Prospective Partners
A. Coordinate implementation of Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) recommendations with CEDS strategies.	PlanRVA, Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia (EMACV)
B. Collaborate with the Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia (EMACV) and other groups on business preparedness workshops and distribution of other preparedness resources.	PlanRVA, Localities, Community Stakeholders.

Strategy 6.2. Build local/neighborhood-level community capacity to efficiently connect businesses to resources when disruptions occur, and to facilitate business activities that support the community.

Actions	Prospective Partners
A. Assess the feasibility of Resource/Resilience Hubs within the region, and specifically consider components of the Hubs that could support businesses or workforce development. If appropriate, explore funding opportunities and approaches that have co-benefits for economic development.	PlanRVA, Localities, Community Stakeholders (e.g., EMACV, 1717 Collective)



Project of Note: On behalf of the Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area, PlanRVA is using a FEMA grant to explore and plan for resilience hubs to support vulnerable populations, including the unhoused, before, during, and after emergency events and may become physical locations from which to provide shelter, food and medical care.

Strategy 6.3. To help manage demands on electrical infrastructure and save money on business operations, increase education and awareness of energy opportunities.

Actions	Prospective Partners
A. Share information on energy efficiency business improvements and electric appliances or machinery.	PlanRVA, Community Stakeholders.
B. Compile and share information with businesses on procedures and incentives for solar roof systems for commercial buildings.	PlanRVA, Community Stakeholders.

Strategy 6.4. Strengthen regional industry supply chains by supporting actions to recycle used materials and build circular supply chains.

Actions	Prospective Partners
A. Encourage and, where feasible, support investigation of circular supply chain opportunities, such as collecting critical minerals from retired digital devices for reuse (supports target IT sector).	PlanRVA, Private Sector, Localities, Community Stakeholders (e.g., Central Virginia Waste Management Authority, Higher Education Institutions, Circular Supply Chain Coalition)



Item of Note: The Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia (EMACV), a coalition of over twenty localities, tribes/sovereign nations, and stakeholder organizations that collaborate on best practices for emergency preparation, response, relief, recovery and mitigation. EMACV has prepared a “Ready Business” toolkit to help businesses develop preparedness programs and plans and collaborates with localities to conduct Disaster Recovery Workshops for Businesses.



Project of Note: Pathways to the Future: Air Quality Plan (anticipated completion Dec. 2025) is a roadmap for the Richmond MSA to become a net-zero, clean economy by 2050. Based on significant input from stakeholders and the public, the plan sets region-wide goals and identifies actionable measures for localities, agencies, industry, and communities to work together to reduce emissions, improve local air quality, and support clean energy workforce development.



Project of Note: In collaboration with Crater Planning District Commission, PlanRVA will begin updating the region’s Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) in 2026 to assess risks and prepare draft mitigation actions essential for local eligibility for disaster funds.