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November 1985

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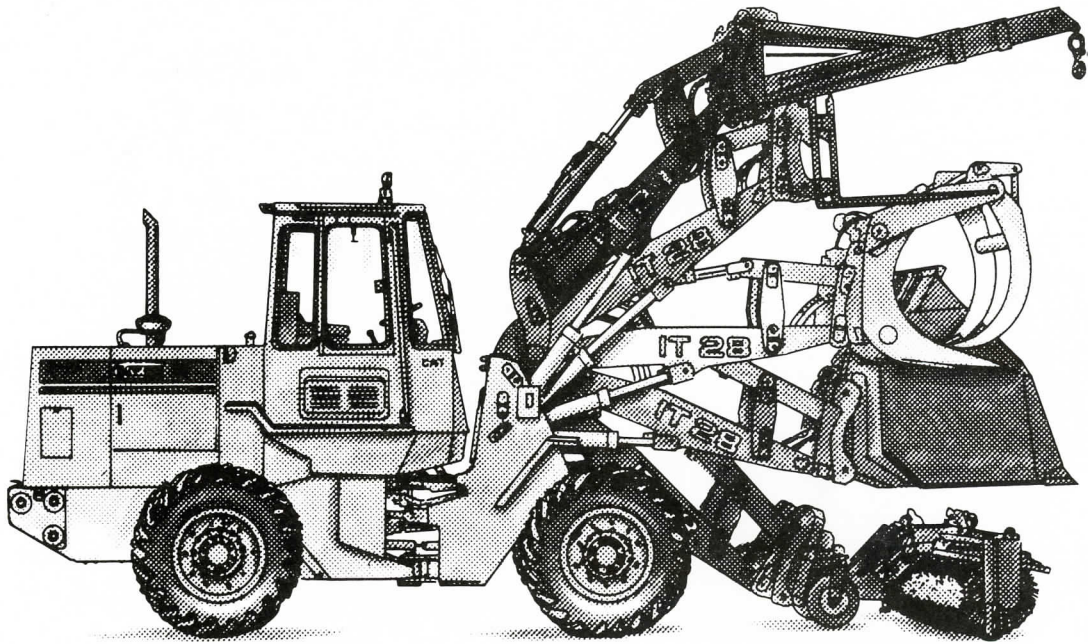
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The 1985 VML Conference in Roanoke



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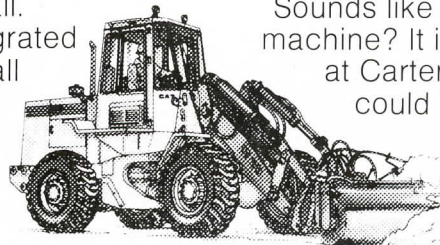
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**Assistant Editor &  
Advertising Manager**

Mary Ann Cornell

**Circulation Manager**

Kathy McIntyre

Volume 20

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Number 11

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*Commentary by Jeffery Grady and Melanie Gillies.*

**On the Cover**

Local artist Richard Bryant sketched the cover rendering of Host Locality Night in Market Square during the VML Conference.

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# People

## Hodge Moves to Roanoke County

As of Nov. 7, **Elmer C. Hodge Jr.** is Roanoke County's new administrator.

Hodge previously served as an assistant county administrator in Chesterfield County, a position he had held since 1980. As one of Chesterfield's three assistant administrators, he was responsible for financial and administrative matters. Hodge had worked for Chesterfield County for 10 years.

## Isman Wins National Post

**Warren E. Isman**, chief of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, is the new second vice president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He was elected by a landslide capturing more than 600 of the 1,000 votes cast at the recent IAFC annual conference in New Orleans. He previously chaired the IAFC Hazardous Materials Committee.

IAFC is a worldwide organization es-

tablished more than 100 years ago and dedicated to the improvement of knowledge and technical abilities of fire command officers. More than 3,500 people attended the conference to participate in seminars and view hundreds of displays.

## Burton Joins New Kent County

**Gary B. Burton** has been appointed county administrator for New Kent County. He previously served as director of planning and deputy county administrator for Prince George County. From 1976 to 1981, Burton was employed as city planner for the city of Salem. Burton is a native of Salem and holds a master's in urban studies from Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University.

## Pullman Takes Finance Position

**Steven L. Pullman** is the new deputy finance director in Vienna. Pullman, 26, was formerly a staff accountant with the firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. in Washington, DC, and a member of the audit team that conducted the town's annual financial review. In his new position, he will assist with daily activities and supervise the town's computer operations.

## Cooper Receives WTS Award

**Sally Cooper**, director of rail and public transportation for the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation, has been named the 1985 Woman of the Year by the Women's Transportation Seminar. The award is presented annually at the organization's conference. She was nominated by the Philadelphia chapter where she was a charter member. In Philadelphia, she worked for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, the U.S. Department of Transportation regional office and in transportation consulting.

She came to Virginia in October 1982 and is working on establishing a Richmond chapter of WTS. In winning the award, Cooper succeeds Elizabeth Dole, secretary of transportation.

## Sweeney Heads Danville Utilities

**Dick Sweeney**, electric director in Danville, has been promoted to director of utilities. In his new position he will be responsible for the city's water, gas, electric, and wastewater operations in addition to the utility customer service division.

Sweeney has been with the city since January 1983 when he was hired as chief electrical engineer. He has experience in working with both public and private utilities and holds a bachelor's in electrical engineering from the University of Kentucky.

## Turner Retires In Falls Church

**Bruce V. Turner** has retired after nine years as the chief of the Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department. Turner served with the volunteers for 35 years in various capacities. Arlington resident and first deputy chief of the volunteers, Walter McGraw, will succeed Turner as chief.

Fire and rescue services for Falls Church are provided through agreements with the Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department and the Arlington County Fire Department. The volunteer fire department provides the fire station and equipment, and Arlington provides the personnel, with occasional personnel assistance from the volunteers.

Turner is a native of Falls Church, and his father served on town council from 1930-1934.

## Kolakowski Leaves Fredericksburg Job

**Peter R. Kolakowski** has resigned as city manager of Fredericksburg to become budget director of the state Department of Highways and Transportation. He had been city manager of Fredericksburg for four years.

Kolakowski will now be in charge of planning, evaluating and coordinating the highway department's budget which is about \$1.2 billion this year. Kolakowski has a master's in public administration from American University. Prior to becoming city manager in Fredericksburg he had worked as director of planning and community development and assistant city manager.



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## **Agostine Takes Henrico Job**

**Frederick T. Agostino** of Norfolk has been named executive director of economic development by the Industrial Development Authority of Henrico County. From July 1982 until his appointment, Agostino held concurrently for the city of Norfolk the positions of director of the Department of Development and executive director of the Industrial Development Authority. He has also served as director of marketing for the Virginia Peninsula Economic Development Council and as deputy director, Office of Economic Development, Montgomery County, MD. He holds a bachelor's in economics from Syracuse University and a master's from Penn State.

## **Warnstaff Heads Beach Utilities**

**Clarence O. Warnstaff** is the new director of public utilities in Virginia Beach. He previously served as assistant director for engineering and construction for the Dallas Water Utilities, Dallas, TX. The Dallas engineering and construction program has an annual capital construction program of \$60 million, an annual operating budget of \$12 million and 394 employees. Warnstaff also served as a rate engineer for the utility. Prior to that he worked as an electronic design engineer with Texas Instruments Inc.

## **Johnston Leaves Campbell County**

**Donald N. Johnston**, county administrator in Campbell County, will retire Dec. 31 after 13 years of service. Among Virginia county administrators, his tenure is exceeded only by the administrator of Orange County.

Johnston is two years past retirement age but stayed at his post with the concurrence of the board of supervisors until completing his terms of office with the National Association of County Administrators. He was president of NACo in 1983-1984 and a member of the board until July 1985. He served as president of the Virginia Association of

County Administrators in 1973. Presently he serves as a liaison between the National County Managers Association and the International City Management Association. Johnston has outlasted all his board members except Ray Ward and H. W. Rosser, and Ward also will retire in December.

A native of Ohio, Johnston arrived in Campbell County in the middle of an annexation and is departing as Lynchburg and Campbell County struggle with the issue again. During his tenure the county spent about \$21 million to upgrade the schools in a five-year period without resorting to a bond issue, and the library program has grown from one small facility to a large central library with three branches due to open in November. County administration is actually Johnston's second career. He first served 22 years in the Air Force.

## **Fordham to Direct County Marketing**

**Phyllis B. Fordham** has been named director of marketing for the Arlington County Division of Economic Development. Fordham has served as the county's marketing representative for the past two years and worked with both public relations and policy analysis. She previously acted as a special assistant for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, and as a private consultant in the field of economic development. Her local government experience includes three terms as a Rockville (MD) City Council member.

# Market Makers and Investment Bankers

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Minimum Live Loads Wind/Roof/Floor	15 psf/20 psf/40 psf	Same
Indoor Design Temperatures: Heating/Cooling	70°/75°	72°/78°
Building Materials	Nationally accepted standards (used materials not allowed)	Nationally accepted standards (bldg. official may allow some used materials and equipment.)

\*Federal Manufactured Home Construction Standards  
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## Virginia Manufactured Housing Association.

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*Conference delegates and guests gathered for food and fun in Market Square on Host Locality Night. Photo: Don Peterson, Roanoke Times & World News.*

# *The 1985 VML Conference*

## *Welcome*

"Roanoke is special. We know it and we want you to know it."

Roanoke Mayor Noel C. Taylor opened the 80th Annual VML Conference and welcomed the delegates to his city.

"Share Roanoke as if it were yours," he invited while singing praises of the star city.

Joseph P. Riley Jr., mayor of Charleston, SC, and next in line to become president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, spoke at the opening session on the importance of salvaging revenue sharing before it expires in 1986.

"We must not let it die," Riley said, adding that "burden sharing" would be a more suitable name.

"We are at a critical midpassage for cities," he said. "In the 1960s, we saw the hearts of our cities die." Although many have made strides in rebuilding, we are a far cry and long road from where we need to be," Riley stated.

Riley said that cities provide facilities and services that determine the quality of life. They provide parks, art and cultural facilities, playgrounds, festivals and amenities that improve life, he said. He cited revenue sharing as one program cities cannot afford to lose.

## *Workshops*

A diversified group of workshop ses-

sions were offered at the 1985 Annual Conference.

Sessions on issues that will be in the forefront of the 1986 General Assembly were particularly of interest. An overview of these issues was presented in a session on 1986 Legislative Topics which included remarks by Delegate Ralph L. Axselle Jr. on the Coalition on Government Competition with Business.

Sessions on the full funding of education, the Tort Claims Act, the Virginia Water Study Commission, highway funding and deinstitutionalization covered state-local issues in greater detail.

This year increasing attention has focused on Washington. Reflecting local concern about federal issues, workshops on the Fair Labor Standards Act, hazardous wastes, federal budget cuts and tax reform were well received.

Local issues received their fair share of attention at the conference as well. Sessions on local government liability and the VML group insurance programs attracted officials facing lawsuits, premium cancellations and skyrocketing insurance costs. Sessions on the policy/administration distinction, meal and lodging taxes, downtown development, productivity analysis, asbestos removal and radon detection, and customer relations gave delegates an opportunity to be brought up to date on a broad array of subjects.

## *Section Meetings*

Workshops for City, Town and Urban Sections during the conference gave members a chance to elect section leaders and discuss issues of concern.

Urban Section members took a closer look at highway funding. Gary P. Allen, senior research scientist, Virginia Transportation Research Council, reviewed methods of highway funding in other states, and Delegate Vivian E. Watts of Fairfax County spoke on legislative prospects for alternative methods in Virginia. James K. Skeens, state urban engineer, reviewed maintenance payments under Virginia's new funding formula.

Sidney M. Oman, Chesapeake council member, and Meyera E. Oberndorf, Virginia Beach council member, were re-elected Urban Section chair and vice chair respectively.

Organizing downtown development was discussed at the City Section Workshop. John Marles, Department of Housing and Community Development; Wayne G. Reed, Franklin city manager; Brian Wishneff, Roanoke director of economic development; and Wendell L. Seldon, Winchester city manager, formed a panel which presented aspects of downtown development. Sub-



jects included the Main Street Program and initiating a revitalization program.

M. Stewart Koethcke, Clifton Forge council member, was re-elected chair of the City Section, and L. D. Oakes, Martinsville council member, was re-elected vice chair.

VML Deputy Director Clay L. Wirt led the Town Section Workshop in a discussion of federal and state legislative issues of concern. The Fair Labor Standards Act, tax reform and alternatives to revenue sharing and other federal budget cuts were topics. Privatization, the Tort Claims Act and water use were also discussed.

Mayor William R. Hartz of Waverly was re-elected Town Section chair, and Carl A. Taylor, Marion town manager, was elected vice chair.

## Host Night

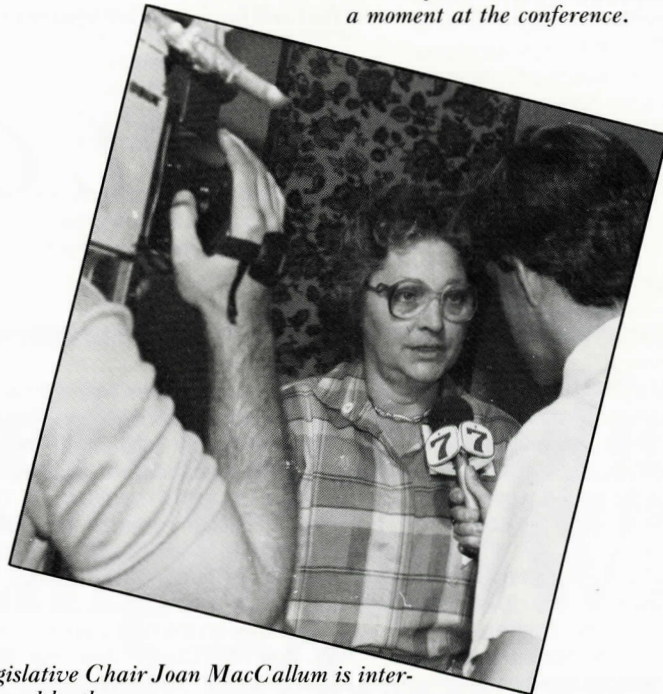
The city of Roanoke treated VML Conference delegates and guests to an entertainment-packed evening in the heart of downtown Roanoke on Host Locality Night.

The evening began with a reception in Center in the Square, a five-story building containing a variety of museums, galleries and shops. Entertainment centers on each floor of the building offered a variety of refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. The rooftop of the building, used as a parking lot during operating hours, afforded a magnificent view of the city, and a combo orchestra added to the enjoyment.

Dinner was served in Market Square. Banquet tables set with tablecloths and fruit and flower arrangements surrounded the stage where two bands entertained until 11 p.m. At tables along the parameter various restaurants offered their dining specialties from rolls to lobster salad, roast beef and tacos to bread pudding, ice cream and popcorn. Bottles of Virginia wine were available at each table. The bands enlivened the evening and delegates and guests danced literally until the last song was played.



*Past President Charlie Robinson, Roanoke Mayor Noel Taylor and President-Elect Sam Adams share a moment at the conference.*



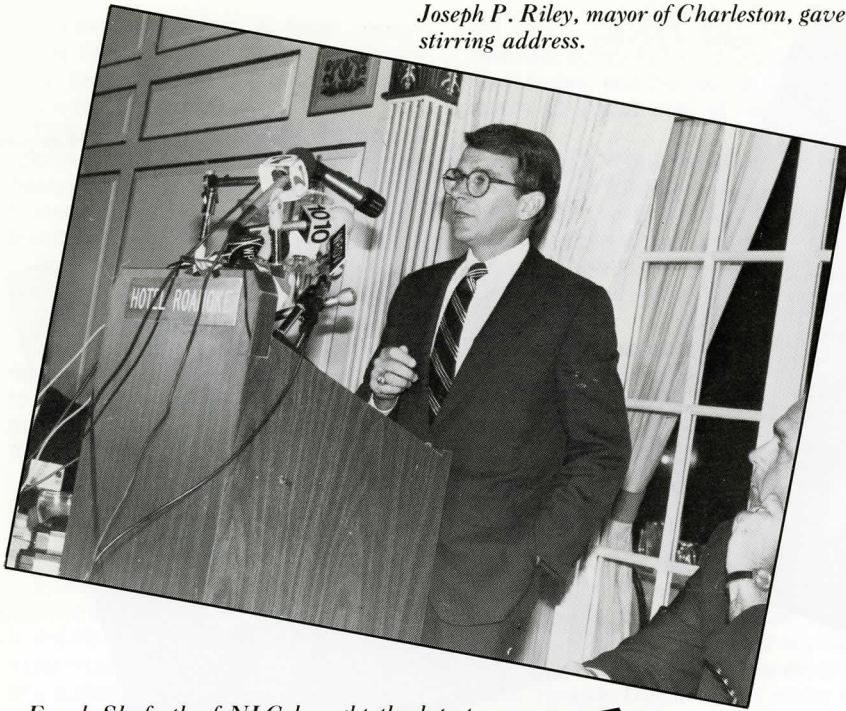
*Legislative Chair Joan MacCallum is interviewed by the press.*



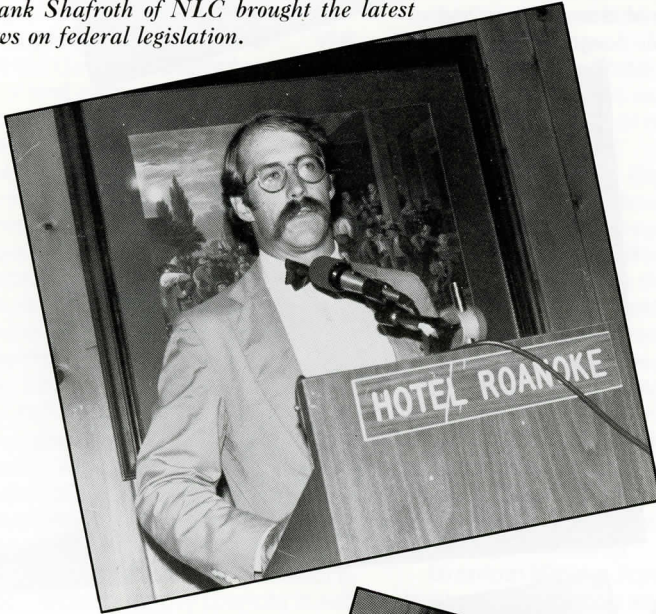
*Gubernatorial candidate Wyatt Durrette spoke at the opening session.*



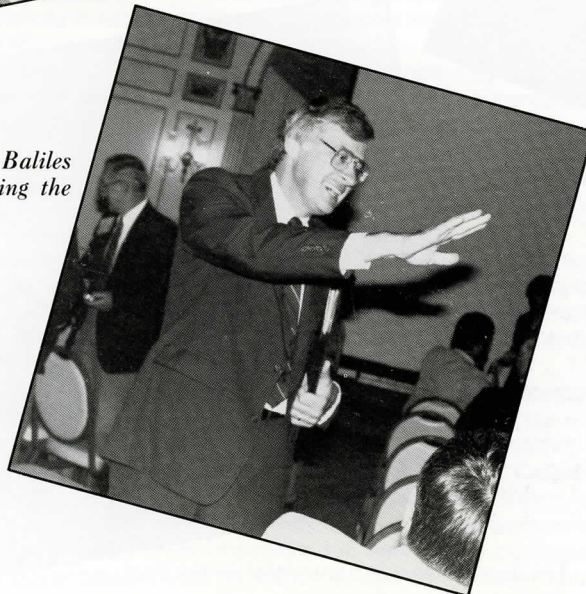
*Joseph P. Riley, mayor of Charleston, gave a stirring address.*



*Frank Shafroth of NLC brought the latest news on federal legislation.*



*Candidate for governor Jerry Baliles waves to a friend after leaving the podium.*



## *Exhibits*

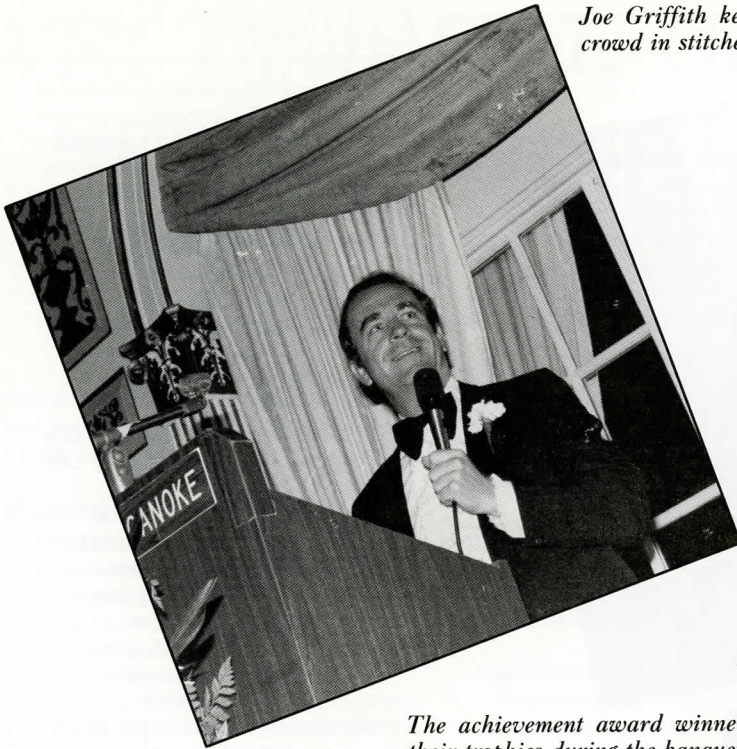
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*Thank You!*



*Joe Griffith kept the banquet crowd in stitches.*



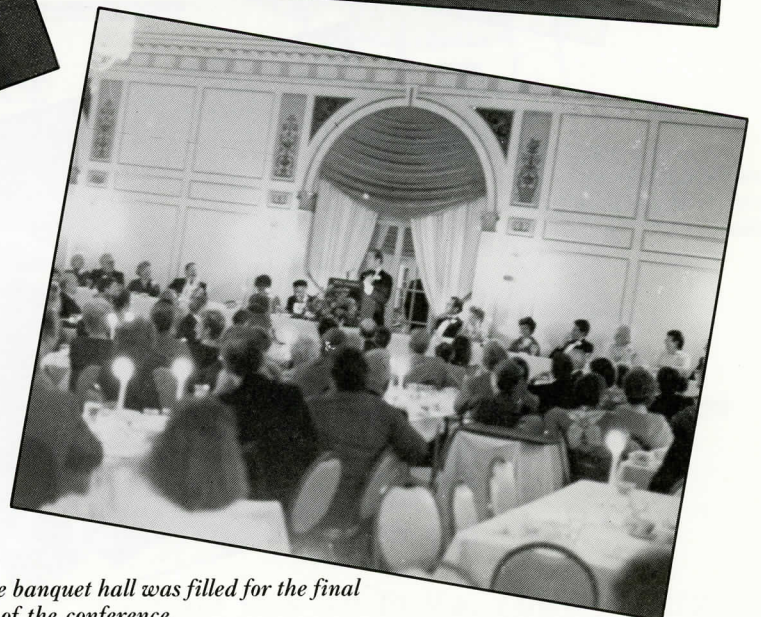
*Lawrence Davies presided at the banquet.*



*The achievement award winners received their trophies during the banquet.*



*Mayor Noel Taylor congratulates Sam Adams, VML's new president.*



*The huge banquet hall was filled for the final evening of the conference.*



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**Fourth Vice President**  
**J. Willard Lineweaver**  
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Council Member, Staunton

**Member at Large**  
**Frances Parsons**  
Council Member, Blacksburg

**City Section Chair**  
**M. Stewart Koethcke**  
Council Member, Clifton Forge

**Town Section Chair**  
**William R. Hartz**  
Mayor, Waverly

**Urban Section Chair**  
**Sidney M. Oman**  
Council Member, Chesapeake



## Meet the President

# Adams Eager to Serve League

This man is active. So much so that he once had to switch his refereeing activities to the North Carolina Athletic Officials Association in order to be closer to home. Now he *only* coaches soccer and T-ball, referees high school basketball, attends council meetings, comes to Richmond once or twice a week, manages five branches of Central Fidelity Bank and serves as president of the Virginia Municipal League. If that isn't enough, in his spare time he collects baseball cards, about 30,000, autographs of famous people, Paul Newman and Ronald Reagan included, and political buttons, an 1896 McKinley, two Teddy Roosevelts, a Harry Truman and a Thomas Dewey.

Reserved, modest and soft spoken, this man also knows how to sit back and observe. This man is Sam Adams.

Surprised by his own election to Emporia City Council in 1974 at the age of 24, he was willing to take his uncle's advice to "sit back and keep your mouth shut." Which he did for about his first six months on council. He was by his own admission innocent. But not anymore. Sam Adams has now served three consecutive terms on council - 12 years.

In 12 years he has seen many changes. In the beginning there were numerous confrontations with the county. Now there are not so many. Most areas of disagreement have been worked out, and written contracts with the delivery of services well delineated now take their place. Confrontations on

education left Emporia as the only city in Virginia that under court order cannot have its own school system. Instead, the city and county have a consolidated school system.

Merger and annexation, issues throughout Adams' 12 years, may soon be resolved. City and county worked out an annexation agreement two years ago, and a citizens' committee has developed a consolidation agreement which will soon be put to a vote in both localities. If the agreement is not passed by a majority in both the city and county, then the communities revert back to the annexation agreement.

Another change possibly soon to come may result from a suit by the American Civil Liberties Union. The ACLU is suing several small Virginia localities alleging that at-large elections are discriminatory. The suit may result in some changes to the nine-member Emporia City Council up for election in May 1986. Emporia does not have the funds to fight the suit, so a compromise is likely.

Another change taking place in Emporia revolves around a nearby dam which the city purchased from Vepco several years ago. The dam has now been sold to a private company that is retrofitting it to produce electricity. Not only did the city benefit from the sale of the dam, but it will continue to benefit through property taxes and a profit sharing agreement.

Adams has been attending VML



As a child, Adams visited his grandmother and uncle in Emporia, and for two summers he worked on his uncle's tobacco farm. It was through these summer visits that Adams met Barbara.

Active, observant and experienced, Sam Adams stands ready to serve the league.

The Virginia Municipal League continues to receive mail at its old address. If your organization sends newsletters, magazines, press releases or correspondence to the Virginia Municipal League, please check to make sure the address has been changed to **VML, P.O. Box 12203, Richmond, VA 23241.**

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# Legislative Report

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## VML's Priorities

1. Full funding of the state's share of the actual cost of public education.
  2. Support of a statewide bond issue for transportation related construction.
  3. Support of state-local cooperation to offset increasing fiscal responsibilities.
- 

VML's legislative goals for the 1986 session of the Virginia General Assembly were developed by the legislative committee and adopted by the membership at the annual conference. They are as follows.

**Meal Taxes.** Enabling legislation to grant all localities authority to use meal taxes with provisions guarding against double taxation.

**Town Sales Taxes.** Identifying towns as a point of collection on sales tax collection forms to provide data to evaluate distribution of local option sales tax revenues.

**Motor Vehicle Licensing.** Requiring all motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers registered and licensed in Virginia to comply with local motor vehicle licensing if not specifically exempted. Also local licensing of military personnel stationed in Virginia.

**Prorating Personal Property Taxes.** Legislation allowing localities the option of prorating personal property tax collections.

**Local Option Gasoline Tax.** Local option authority to impose a 2 percent retail tax on gasoline with revenue used for public transportation and street maintenance and construction.

**Interest on Roll Back Taxes.** Legislation allowing localities to charge a lower interest rate on roll back taxes than that assessed on delinquent taxes.

**Railroad Assessment Methods.** Relief for localities adversely affected by the recent change in Tax Department railroad assessment methods.

**Education Funding.** Full funding of the state's share of the actual costs of the Standards of Quality and of the categorical education mandates accomplished by an additional 1 percent state-

wide sales tax returned to localities and without reduction to other related funding components.

**Incentives for Consolidating School Districts.** Continuing incentives for localities through the basic aid formula to encourage consolidated school districts.

**Transportation Funding.** Support for the concept of a statewide bond issue for highway construction with the debt serviced by an increase in highway related revenues.

**Highway Maintenance.** Insertion of "preventive maintenance" in the definition used for allocation of maintenance payments.

**Bridge Fund.** Creation of a separate bridge fund.

**Railroad Crossings.** Direct state assistance through grants or fees on industries benefiting from increased rail traffic to assist in funding railroad improvements.

**Commuter Rail.** Establishment of an experimental commuter rail between Washington and Fredericksburg and Manassas.

**Reduced Federal Funding.** Aid to localities either directly through financial assistance or indirectly through permissive legislation allowing localities to use additional sources of revenue in the event of reduced federal revenues to localities.

**Metropolitan Washington Airport.** Implementation of the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority.

**Overtime for Public Safety Employees/FLSA.** State funding to cover overtime costs of public safety employees resulting from the *Garcia v. San Antonio* court decision and application of the Fair

Labor Standards Act to local government.

**Resources Authority Grants.** Funding to the authority for direct grants to Virginia localities.

**Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting.** Increased funding of the Technical Assistance Fund to provide local governments the protection the law intends.

**Regional Training Academies.** Full funding of all mandated criminal justice training.

**Correction Facilities.** Equal sharing of state and local facilities to ease overcrowding, full funding of the new reimbursement formulas and continued emphasis on the state funding its share of the costs of upgrading existing facilities and developing new facilities.

**Service Charges on State and Federal Property.** Payments in lieu of taxes on tax exempt state and federal property.

**Deinstitutionalization.** Deinstitutionalization on a case by case basis coordinating the individual's needs with the community's resources and with funds following the patient from the institution to the community.

**Aging.** State funding of long-term care mandates and costs incurred in gathering information required by the Long Term Care Council.

**Proposed Contraband Forfeiture Act.** Adoption of a Contraband Forfeiture Act allowing the confiscated financial resources of criminals to be returned to the locality for law enforcement purposes.

**State and Locally Owned Health Facilities.** Funds addressing discrepancies between funding for state and local facilities.



**Jailing Juveniles.** A fiscal impact study of legislation allowing juvenile court judges to use short-term community based sentencing.

**Dillon Rule.** Appropriate legislation applying to cities, towns and counties based on the Virginia Commission on Constitutional Revision recommendation that the Dillon's Rule be reversed.

**Sovereign Immunity.** Strengthening sovereign immunity protection for local government officials.

**Shared Cost by Subdivision Developers.** Authority to require developers to pay a pro rata share of the cost of reasonable and necessary adjacent roads.

**Antitrust Exemption.** Exemption of local governments from state antitrust law and legislation providing immunity from federal antitrust laws.

**Special Service Districts.** Enabling legislation allowing towns under 30,000 to establish special service districts and legislation enabling localities to provide any additional services the citizens are willing to fund.

**Unappropriated Reserves.** VML urges the General Assembly not to prohibit or limit carry-over reserves or surpluses in local budgets.

**State Compliance with Local Comprehensive Plans.** Legislation to require state agencies to comply with local comprehensive plans subject to override authority by the governor.

**Duration of Franchises.** Amendment to the Virginia Constitution increasing the duration of municipal franchises for use of public property to 99 years. Repeal of the 60-year provision for air rights franchises.

**Newspaper Publication of Tax Increases.** Authority to deliver advertisements of tax increases by hand or by first class mail in lieu of newspaper publication.

**Salaries of Council Members.** Greater flexibility for city councils in setting council salaries, benefits and expense limits.

**Appointment of School Board Members.** Local government authority to directly appoint school board members with the term of office at the pleasure of the local governing body.

**Legislation Affecting Towns and Counties.** Avoidance of legislation causing conflict between counties and towns, and promotion of harmonious, cooperative and mutually beneficial relationships between towns and counties. Establishment of a state office of town relations and continued study of policy issues affecting towns.

**Commission on Town/County Relations.** A General Assembly study commission on town/county relations giving attention to distribution of local option sales tax revenues, differentiated taxing districts for towns not receiving

full county services, town zoning and planning authority for parcels straddling boundaries, and increasing authority of towns to equal that of counties and cities.

**Council Appointment.** Exempt towns under 3,500 population from provisions of the code that prohibit appointment of a former council member to a council filled position for a period of one year after the council member leaves office.

**Landfill Charges.** Legislation embracing the concept that town residents pay no more than county residents for use of county landfills.

**Attorney General Opinions.** Amendment of the state statute to allow town attorneys and attorneys from cities of the second class to request opinions from the attorney general.

**Testing of Water Samples.** Legislation clarifying that public water system owners are not responsible for any liability for failure to report test results to the state Health Department once the owner has transmitted samples to a licensed laboratory.

**Payment for Water Samples.** An amendment to make each public water utility pay for testing of water samples at the state laboratory.

**Weight Limit for Garbage Trucks.** An amendment to allow municipal garbage trucks or garbage trucks under contract to municipalities to travel on state roads as long as their weight limits do not exceed those established by the state for coal and cement trucks.

**Virginia Tort Claims Act.** Opposition to legislation extending to local governments the Tort Claims Act.

**Rates for Utility Services.** Opposition to legislation permitting the State Corporation Commission to further regulate rates for utility services furnished to local governments.

**Uranium Mining.** A permanent moratorium on the mining and milling of uranium in Virginia.

**Group Self Insurance.** Legislation to expand current group self insurance association statutes to other lines of coverage.

**Annexation Procedure.** Opposition to any substantial changes in the annexation statutory procedures.

**Housing Study.** Study additional actions the state could take to address housing needs for low and moderate income families, the elderly and handicapped.

**Medicaid.** Opposition to any attempt to transfer the current federal-state responsibilities for Medicaid to localities.

**Misdemeanors—Probable Cause.** Legislation authorizing police officers to make arrests for certain misdemeanors not committed in their presence based on probable cause and reasonable complaint including assault and battery,

larceny and destruction of property.

**Allocation of Water Resources.** Assessment of existing and potential surface and ground water and development of a water conservation and supply plan. If justified, by the study, legislation to authorize the interbasin transfer of surface water and interjurisdictional transfer of ground water when cooperative intergovernmental agreements are unattainable. The state's role should be to protect the interest of water users in the source basin or source aquifer and to provide compensation for damages caused by water transfers.

**Study of Preventive Services.** A study commission to examine the use and results of existing preventive programs and the need for additional programs in areas such as alcohol and drug abuse, adult illiteracy, school dropouts, and spouse and child abuse.

**Neighborhood Assistance Act.** Extension of tax credits authorized by the Neighborhood Assistance Act.

**Supplemental Retirement System.** Review the purchase of insurance for VSRS members from Life of Virginia to determine if better rates are available. Legislation to allow employees whose share of VSRS is paid by the local government employer to withdraw their share upon leaving employment.

**Employee-Management Relations.** Legislation to prohibit dues check-off and collective bargaining for all public employees.

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## League Publishes New Bulletin

The Virginia Municipal League is publishing a new bulletin in addition to the Legislative Bulletin published annually while the Virginia General Assembly is in session.

The Interim Legislative Bulletin takes over where the Legislative Bulletin leaves off. It will be published on the third Thursday of each month while the assembly is not in session. Its purpose is to keep members up to date on off-session legislative activities and to give indepth analyses of legislative issues. The publication will be mailed to all VML mayors, managers and board chairs as well as VML legislative liaisons. The first issue was mailed in October.



# VML Offers Study Opportunity

The Virginia Municipal League is seeking applicants for the Wallerstein Scholarship. The scholarship was established by a gift from Ruth C. and Morton L. Wallerstein to the University of Virginia to foster interest and research in Virginia state and local government. Morton L. Wallerstein was the first executive director of the league.

The scholarship is jointly administered by the Virginia Municipal League and the Institute of Government, University of Virginia.

## Eligibility

An applicant must be:

1. An employee or official of a Virginia municipality who would like to spend a year at the University of Virginia engaged in research and study with the Institute of Government; or

2. A person, preferably an employee or official of a Virginia municipality, seeking to undertake graduate work at the University of Virginia in a field related to state and local government. It is hoped, but not required, that the recipient intends to enter or re-enter Virginia government service upon completion of the graduate work.

## Selection Criteria

While an applicant must show promise of benefiting substantially from a year at the university and a degree applicant must meet admission standards, the selection committee will place heavy emphasis upon the individual's potential for public service in Virginia.

## Duration of the Award

The award is made for a 12-month period beginning between June 1, 1986 and Sept. 1, 1986. The award may be continued a second year depending on the recipient's need and first year record.

## Amount of the Award

The amount is \$5,000.

## Application Procedure

Applicants for the scholarship may obtain the necessary forms by writing to the institute. Applicants seeking a graduate degree must fulfill all the requirements for admission to the graduate school of the university. Inquiries regarding graduate school requirements should be addressed to the Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences,

438 Cabell Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, 22903.

## Dates for Selection

Applications must be submitted no later than February 15, 1986. An applicant may be invited to attend a personal interview held either at the institute or at the Virginia Municipal League offices in Richmond. The recipient will be notified no later than April 15, 1986.

For further information, write Dr. Timothy G. O'Rourke, Institute of Government, University of Virginia, 207 Minor Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903.

Some former Wallerstein scholars include Denise Butterfield Fisher, now working for Newport News as a management research analyst, Sigrid Tompkins, Donna Hawthorne, Jack Davenport, Elizabeth Walker, now working as assistant to the city manager for Hampton, George Urquhart, and John Poarch, working for the Virginia Housing and Development Authority.

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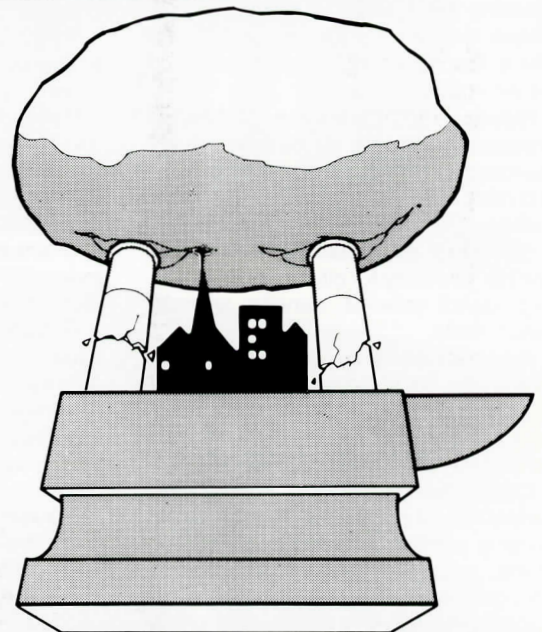
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### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

1:00 p.m.-2:45 p.m. Registration  
3:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting  
6:00 p.m. President's Reception

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00 a.m. Registration  
8:30 a.m. Opening Session  
9:45 a.m. BUILDING CODES AND L. P. GAS  
12:00 noon Group Luncheon  
1:15 p.m. CODES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES-UL LISTED  
GAS EQUIPMENT  
2:00 p.m. FLEXIBLE DUCTS AND CONNECTIONS  
3:00 p.m. THE KEROSENE HEATER INDUSTRY  
AN OVERVIEW  
3:45 p.m. AMUSEMENT RIDES AND RELATED CODES  
6:30 p.m. Harbor Cruise

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:00 a.m. Registration  
8:30 a.m. DIRECT APPLIED PROTECTION FOR FIRE  
RATED ASSEMBLIES  
9:30 a.m. ALARM SYSTEMS  
10:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions  
12:00 noon Lunch on your own  
1:15 p.m. LUMBER CONSTRUCTION  
2:30 p.m. Annual Business Session  
3:00 p.m. MASONRY FIRE WALLS  
6:00 p.m. Social Hour  
7:00 p.m. Annual Banquet

For further information and registration contact Joni Terry, Executive Director, P.O. Box 12203, Richmond, VA 23241, 804/649-8471.

## League Continues Legislative Process

During the months of November and December the Virginia Municipal League holds its annual regional meetings, the final preparations for the opening of the 1986 session of the Virginia General Assembly.

The league's year-long legislative process began in the spring with the appointment of representatives to the policy committees and continued through the summer months as the committees met and developed policy guidelines and legislative goals. These guidelines and goals were adopted by vote of the membership at the league conference in September.

With the regional meetings the league takes its policies and goals to its grassroots, allowing regional constituents to introduce these goals to their representatives. Regional meeting dates are as follows:

Nov. 19	Harrisonburg
Nov. 21	Chincoteague
Nov. 21	Fairfax
Nov. 25	Marion
Nov. 26	Roanoke
Dec. 2	Hampton
Dec. 2	Richmond
Dec. 4	Farmville

To register to attend one of these meetings, write or call the Virginia Municipal League, P.O. Box 12203, Richmond, VA 23241; 804/649-8471.

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## Five to Revive Downtowns

Bedford, Franklin, Fredericksburg, Petersburg and Winchester have been selected to participate in the Virginia Main Street program.

The program is designed to promote revitalization of downtowns in smaller municipalities and to encourage new development in aging downtown commercial areas. The five communities selected will receive expert technical assistance from the National Main Street Center, an affiliate of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

## Culpeper Receives Grant for Park

The state Department of Conservation and Historic Resources has approved an \$84,500 matching grant for the town of Culpeper's first park. The town will receive 94 percent of the money this fiscal year with the additional 6 percent to come in the next fiscal year.

Work on the Yowell Meadow Park is expected to begin in the spring. Located

on the western edge of the town's business district, the park includes a meandering stream which paths and bridges will be built around. Also planned for the park are soccer and softball fields, a basketball court, exercise trail and comfort station.

A citizen's group working with the town and chaired by citizen Waverly Lee has secured pledges of both funds and in kind donations to match the grant.

## Charlottesville Begins New Health Program

An employee health program aimed at reducing the city's nearly \$1 million annual medical costs is underway in Charlottesville.

At a cost of about \$30,000, the city is giving employees mandatory health tests administered by a local hospital. Based on the test results, the city will offer employees a variety of free seminars on health related subjects. In addition, at a cost of \$15 a month per employee the city will pick up the tab for an employee's membership in a local fitness club.

The new emphasis on fitness is expected to reduce insurance claims and sick leave and improve productivity.

## Virginia Beach Aids Blind Voters

Virginia Beach helped its visually impaired citizens to vote this year by making voter information brochures available in Braille and on tapes.

The voter registration information in Braille was produced by Marie Bashaw, a volunteer, and Linda Midgett, a blind staff member of the department of public libraries' special services division located at Bayside Public Library. The division is the regional library for the blind and physically handicapped and serves about 1,200 visually impaired or blind individuals in Eastern Virginia.

The division was praised for its efforts by Nelson Malbone, president, Virginia Association of the Blind, and Midgett pointed out that "blind people like to do as much as they can on their own."

City council agendas and hurricane and emergency information are also available from the division in Braille or on tape. The materials can be picked up or mailed out and permanent tapes will be made for anyone who brings a blank tape to the library.

# We're Serving Public Service Employees With More Cost-Effective Health Benefits.

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Newport News/Manassas/Petersburg/Staunton/Winchester/Charlottesville



## Magazine Cites Fairfax County

Among the best in the nation is Fairfax County's Fire and Rescue Department, according to Firehouse Magazine.

A group of experts studied more than 25,000 fire departments, and Fairfax County Fire and Rescue repeatedly came out among the top 25 departments.

Trends were examined in five areas: decreases in fire loss, decreases in firefighter injury, financial responsibility, increases in performance standards and increases in amount and type of services offered. With new physical fitness requirements, officer training and certification, participation in National Fire Academy programs and a foreign exchange program, the Fairfax County department excelled in the area of increased performance standards.

In the category of changes in services offered, the county excelled with stepped-up fire prevention activities, EMS (emergency medical service) improvements and advancement in hazardous materials response.

All 25 top departments were cited in Firehouse Magazine for demonstrating a willingness to try new things and new methods, seeking public involvement, earning community support and doing everything possible to develop and use talents within their organizations.

## Hopewell Seeks Charter Change

Hopewell City Council has voted to ask the General Assembly to amend the city charter to allow council to issue general obligation bonds for capital improvements without voter approval.

Hopewell is one of only a few Virginia cities that cannot issue bonds without a referendum, and voters have failed to pass several attempted bond issues including one in 1984 for construction of a \$4.3 million public safety building.

## Employment Good In Hanover County

Hanover County has the state's lowest unemployment rate, according to the Virginia Employment Commission's August statistics. That rate was 2.3 percent.

Manassas Park had the second low-

est rate in August, 2.4 percent, according to the commission.

The two areas have typically vied for this top slot usually with no more than a tenth of a percent difference between them. Hanover's unemployment rate has been declining, but the labor marketing expert for VEC says it's too early to call this is a trend.

The state's unemployment rate was 5.3 percent in August, representing 154,300 jobless people.

Chair of the Hanover County Board of Supervisors Robert S. Cosby attributes the county's low rate to its industrial diversity.

Hanover is a "bedroom community" with most residents working elsewhere. Many small businesses operate in Hanover and more than 200 industries operate at the Hanover Industrial Air Park and along the Interstate 95 industrial corridor.

Dickenson County at 20 percent and Buchanan County at 17.4 percent held the state's highest unemployment rates for August.

## Site Registration Open For Congress

On site registrations will be accepted at the National League of Cities' 1985 Congress of Cities and Exposition, Dec. 7-11 in Seattle, WA.

With the theme "Changing Times, Challenging Roles," the conference promises information and inspiration. Workshops will be offered in three tracks: Finding Resources, Forging Partnerships; Better Leaders, Bigger Jobs; and Enhancing Communities, Enriching Lives.

The exposition is expected to be one of the largest ever, with exhibits filling 250 booths.

Registration is \$270 for officials of NLC direct member cities, \$320 for non-members and indirect members, and \$340 for private sector individuals.

For information, call (202) 626-3200.

## Marketplace

### Director Community Development & Engineering

**Danville, VA**—Directs, supervises staff of 29, budget of \$4.2 million for engineering, building inspection, planning, community development divisions. Reports to city manager as one of eight departments. Applicants must be familiar with muni. eng., urban planning, code enforcement; exp. administering CDBG and UDAG desirable. Min. 5 yrs. exp. in muni. design, eng., planning, community development grants. Salary: \$36,331 - \$54,497 DOE. Submit resume by Dec. 31 to Personnel Department, City of Danville, P.O. Box 3300, Danville, VA 24543. EOE.

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**Charlottesville, VA** (pop. 41,000). New senior management position. Coordinates, directs housing, social service, employment training programs, other human service pro-

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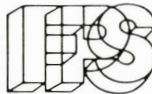
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## Fiscal Austerity and Urban Practices

A recent report from the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission concluded that Virginia local governments are in trouble. Many are experiencing fiscal stress. Stagnant growth in revenue capacity, increasing tax effort and the need to take budgetary action to control expenditures continue to plague Virginia localities.

To probe the effects of fiscal stress, the Institute of Government at the University of Virginia asked officials in Virginia's largest local governments about financial practices in their localities. This survey was part of a larger study being conducted by researchers in all 50 U.S. states and several European countries.

The Virginia study surveyed city and town council members, members of boards of supervisors and chief administrative officers in 20 jurisdictions. These jurisdictions included all cities (14) with populations in 1980 of more than 35,000, the five counties with populations more than 100,000 and the town of Blacksburg. Responses were received from the chief administrative officer in 19 of the 20 localities and from 103 of the 161 elected officials included in the survey.

The survey sought answers to these questions:

- What have been the important problems for local government finances in Virginia?
- What fiscal management strategies have been used by Virginia's largest local governments?
- What are the relative roles of elected officials and professional staffs in setting spending levels, allocating funds among departments and developing strategies for fiscal management?
- How do elected officials think the majority of voters feel about spending on various urban services in their localities?

A number of reasons for the fiscal stress felt by local governments have been offered. City managers and county administrators in the jurisdictions surveyed were asked to rank financial problems according to their importance in their localities. Following are the results.

	Number of localities citing
Mandated costs from federal and state government	14
Loss of state revenue	12
Inflation	11
Rising service demands from citizens	11
Loss of federal revenue	9
Pressures from taxpayers to reduce taxes and spending	9
High interest rates	9
Infrastructure replacement and maintenance	8
Pressure from employees	7
Declining tax base	5
Unemployment	4
State tax, revenue or expenditure limits	2
Failure of bond referenda	2

Intergovernmental developments led the list. "Mandated costs from federal and state governments" was cited as one of the most important problems or as a very important problem by 14 of the 19 administrators responding. Loss of state revenue and loss of federal revenue also were cited as important by 12 localities and nine localities respectively.

The results were surprising given today's emphasis on economic development. Unemployment and a declining tax base were not seen as major problems. No locality said unemployment was one of its most important problems, and only one locality said a declining tax base was very important.

Also as part of the survey, managers and administrators were given a list of 32 fiscal management strategies and were asked which ones they had used. Their responses suggested that a wide variety of programs and strategies had been used to help local governments solve fiscal problems. Sixteen different strategies were ranked as "one of the most important" by at least one locality. Five localities mentioned seeking additional intergovernmental revenues, four localities mentioned increasing taxes, another four mentioned improving productivity through better management and three mentioned across the board spending cuts.

Many of these strategies were based on raising additional revenues or making local government more efficient. Eighteen localities increased user fees

and charges. Most local governments tried to squeeze additional services out of their dollars or at least to spend less while providing the same level of service. Seventeen localities found "improving productivity through better management" a useful strategy. "Reduction in the workforce through attrition" was used by 14 localities and 11 localities imposed a hiring freeze. No locality reported reducing services or eliminating programs as one of its most important strategies.

Council members and supervisors reported that both elected officials and professional staff set spending levels. Only 19.2 percent of respondents said elected officials "set" or "largely set" overall spending levels, while 51.8 percent felt that professional staff "largely set" or "suggest the approximate level" of local government spending. Of the respondents, 27.7 percent thought professional staff and elected officials had about equal voice in setting spending levels.

Council and board members reported that most of the time professional staff allocate funds among local government departments. Many, 89.2 percent, said professional staff "largely set" or "set approximate" allocations among departments.

Fiscal stress has caused local governments to develop new fiscal management strategies. According to the elected officials, developing new strategies has been a joint effort of professional staff and elected officials, and 45.7 percent of respondents reported professional staff and elected officials had "about equal input" in developing new strategies.

On overall spending, council and board members believe citizens would like local government to spend a little less. Citizens are perceived to want a reduction in spending for social welfare, low-income housing and salaries of local government employees. Police and fire protection, primary and secondary education, and streets and parking are areas where elected officials think an increase is desired.

### About the Authors

Jeffery Grady is a researcher for Economic Research Inc. in Washington, DC. Melanie Gillies is a graduate research assistant at the Institute of Government, University of Virginia.



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