

Preserving Virginia's Working Landscapes through PDR Programs

**A Presentation
For
The Joint Subcommittee to Study
Long Term Funding
Sources for PDRs**

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Preserving Virginia's Working Landscapes through PDR Programs

- A. The Challenges to Virginia Agriculture & Forestry: Disappearance of Land and Human Resources
- B. Local Initiatives to Meet this Challenge
- C. State Initiatives to Meet the Challenge
- D. A Model PDR Program for Virginia
- E. 2006 Session Appropriation Actions
- F. Next Steps
- G. The key to Success: Matching Funds for Local PDR Programs

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A. The Challenges to Virginia Agriculture and Forestry: Disappearance of Land and Human Resources

- Magnitude of the challenges
- The stakes

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B. Local Initiatives to Meet these Challenges

- Taxation Actions (Land-use taxation)
- Zoning agricultural & Forestal Districts
- PDR Programs
- Other

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C. State Initiatives to Meet these Challenges

- 2000/2001 Sessions: Virginia Agricultural Vitality Program/Office of Farmland Preservation
- Agricultural Vitality Program
 - Virginia Farmlink
 - Virginia Farmland Preservation (PDR)

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C. State Initiatives to Meet these Challenges (continued)

- Accomplishments:
 - Virginia Farmlink
 - Farmland Preservation

Developing a Model PDR Program for Virginia

D. A Model PDR Program

- Why a PDR Program?
- Legislative Mandate
- A Caveat
- Primary Authors:
VDACS Farmland Preservation Task Force
- Strategy: Develop in Multiple Phases
 - Part 1 – Suggested Components of Local PDR Programs
 - Part 2 – Proposed State PDR Program

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Part 1 – Suggested Components of Local PDR Programs

- Released June 2004
- Contents: Full text (including examples) www.vdacs.virginia.gov
- Components
 - Clearly defined goals and purpose
 - Action plan for outreach to land owners, public officials and the public

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Part 1 – Suggested Components of Local PDR Programs (continued)

- Adopted ordinance/resolution establishing the program
- Valuation processes
- Agricultural enhancement strategy
- Deed of easement
- Mandatory monitoring program
- Periodic program evaluation
- Required reporting

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Part 2a Proposed State Level Program to Complement Local PDR Program

- Release - November 2005
- Role of the State PDR Program
 - 1) Certify local program as being operational
 - 2) Review/approve local applications for matching easement funds
 - 3) Disperse easement matching funds for qualifying local easement purchases

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Part 2b Proposed State Level Program to Complement Local PDR Program

- Strategic Plan

Goal: Enhance the viability of Virginia Agriculture & Forestry by facilitating local governments abilities to protect working farm and forest lands.

Objective 1. By 2007, the Commonwealth, through the Office of Farmland Preservation and public and private partners, shall have the capacity to provide farm and forest land assistance to all requesting localities.

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Proposed State Level Program to Complement Local PDR Program (continued)

- Objective 3: By 2010, 30 additional localities will establish PDR Programs consistent with State guidelines. By 2020, at least 70 total localities will have adopted and funded PDR programs consistent with the State model.

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E. 2006 Session Appropriation Actions

2006 Budget Actions

Office of Farmland Preservation (VDACS)

- \$305,000
- 1 FTE

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F. Next Steps

- Recruit coordinator for program
- Transfer the VA Farmlink data base
- Work with Taskforce/localities to develop strategies
 - For strengthening existing PDR programs
 - For establishing new programs

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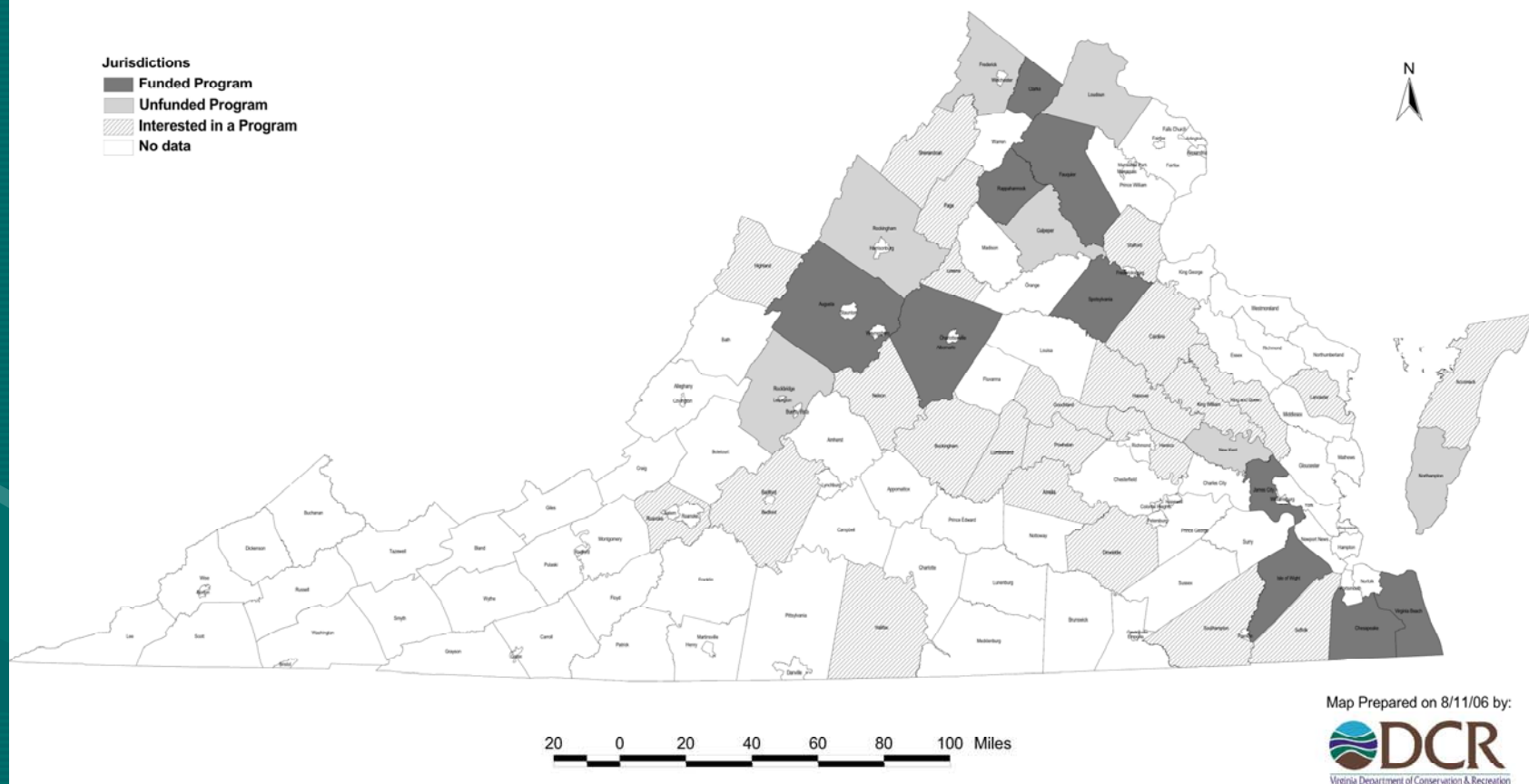
G. Key to Success:

Matching funds for local PDR Programs



Virginia

Status of PDR Programs in Virginia



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Source of State Funding for PDR Programs
in the
United States

- Annual Appropriations
- General Obligation Bonds
- Real Estate Transfer Taxes
- Agricultural Land Transfer Tax
- Sales and Use Tax
- Cigarette Tax

