GO VA BOARD

HENRICO COUNTY

How does Henrico County help minority business?

Focused on the employee side and the service side in terms of diversity; much more diverse and business savvy than years ago; something the county can do to facilitate and foster more participation and inclusion; it will also appeal to their elected body; going into this to take this idea and see what they can do with it on a larger county scale

Historically focused on supplier diversity in procurement – outpacing the Commonwealth because of their specific hire for that effort; would only use local dollars because of flexibility in fiscal use; coming up with new initiative \*local enterprise zone\* would allow them to do some things for businesses, i.e. façade grants and other specific improvements for businesses; want some benefit for the county for their businesses—excited!!

Would like to bring in Mr. Romanello to develop a framework for aiding minority small businesses;

Prince George County – Invited entrepreneurs to PG libraries to discuss opportunities; speaks at VSU College of Business via Jonathan’s invitation; working with Lorin on FAME which spurs student interest in working engineering for corporation; find students jobs is their emphasis and to continue that pipeline; VSU has unique advanced eng. degree and their may be other opportunities for other majors; educated, competent workforce is what their businesses request; will also seek to aid students who don’t want to work in corporate with starting their own businesses; in-person roundtables in Spring – January 2022

Petersburg – Houses City Point Innovation Center and explicit partnership with MBL and VSU on many fronts; Mr. Myer is an entrepreneur himself and wants to focus on business development education (marketing and planning and access to intellectual and financial resources to help businesses grow); hard for businesses to identify and keep good workers;