**TOWN OF BOWLING GREEN**
**TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

**A G E N D A**

**Thursday, November 19, 2026**
**6:00 PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: 3 MINUTES PER INDIVIDUAL**

**MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Review, Discuss, and Consider Adoption of Town of Bowling Green 2027 Legislative Program, India Adams-Jacobs, MPA, ICMA-CM

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: 3 MINUTES PER INDIVIDUAL**

**MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

# TOWN OF BOWLING GREEN

## STAFF MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Town Council

**FROM:** India Adams-Jacobs, MPA, ICMA-CM

**COPY:** John Anzivino, Interim Town Manager; Jeff Gore, Town Attorney

**DATE:** November 17, 2026

**RE:** Resolution [26-___] Adopting the 2027 Legislative Agenda

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### PURPOSE

This item asks Council to adopt the Town's 2027 Legislative Agenda by resolution. Adoption lets staff send the agenda to the Town's federal and state delegation before the 2027 General Assembly session.

### BACKGROUND

Over the last two years, Council has adopted a legislative agenda that sets the Town's funding requests and policy positions. The adopted agenda directs staff and legislative advocates, and it asks our representatives to carry the Town's requests.

The 2027 session is a short session, in which members file amendments to the biennial state budget. Budget amendment requests need a patron, so the agenda must be adopted during this meeting. The Town's delegation is unchanged after the November 3, 2026, election.

### DISCUSSION

The 2027 agenda carry forward the water and sewer requests and adds new items tied to current Town priorities:

- **Water and sewer (Items 1–2):** Support for the ion exchange treatment facility required under the VDH Consent Order, and for ongoing sewer main rehabilitation.
- **Bank Franchise Tax Legislation (Item 3):** Support legislation closing loopholes for data centers
- **360th anniversary (Item 4):** A commending resolution and tourism support for the Town's 2027 anniversary year.
- **Policy positions (Item 5):** Standard positions protecting local authority and revenue, consistent with the Virginia Municipal League.

The full list follows. All items are requested by the Town Council and Town Manager.

| # | Item | Level | Goal Area | Position |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sewer system rehabilitation | State & Federal | Utilities | Request budget amendment patron; request Community Project Funding |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2** | Water system improvements | State | Utilities | Request budget amendment patron; request Community Project Funding |
| **3** | Support Bank Franchise Tax legislation closing data center loopholes | State | Financial Management, Government Performance | Support |
| **4** | Town's 360th anniversary (2027) | State | Vibrant Downtown; Economic Development | Request commending resolution and tourism support |
| **5** | Virginia Municipal League 2027 Legislative Program | State | All | Support |

## FISCAL IMPACT

Adopting the agenda has no direct fiscal impact. Any state or federal award would come back to Council for acceptance and appropriation, including any required local match.

## RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council adopt Resolution [26-___] approving the 2027 Legislative Agenda.

## SUGGESTED MOTION

**I move that the Town Council adopt Resolution [26-___], approving and adopting the Town of Bowling Green 2027 Legislative Agenda as presented.**

## ATTACHMENTS

- Town of Bowling Green 2027 Legislative Agenda
- Resolution [26-___]
- Virginia Municipal League 2027 Legislative Program

# Town of Bowling Green

# Legislative Agenda

# 2027

## Town of Bowling Green Leadership

### Bowling Green Town Council

| *Office* | *Name* |
|---|---|
| Mayor | Tina Gambill |
| Vice Mayor | Valarie Coyle |
| Councilmember | David Storke |
| Councilmember | Randy Hageman |
| Councilmember | Dr. John Chinault |
| Councilmember | Daniel Webb |
| Councilmember | Jean Davis |
| Councilmember | Jeff Voit |

Interim Town Manager: Mr. John Anzivino

Town Attorney: Mr. Jeff Gore

Government Relations Manager: Mrs. India Adams-Jacobs

## ***Federal & State Representatives***

| Office | Representative | Address | Contact |
|---|---|---|---|
| U.S. Senator | Tim Kaine (D) | 919 East Main Street, Suite 970, Richmond, VA 23219 | (804) 771-2221 |
| U.S. Senator | Mark Warner (D) | 919 East Main Street, Suite 630, Richmond, VA 23219 | (804) 775-2314 |
| U.S. Representative, 7th District | Eugene Vindman (D) | 1005 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515-4607 | (202) 225-2815 |
| Senator, 25th District | Richard Stuart (R) | General Assembly Building, Room 510, P.O. Box 396, Richmond, VA 23218 | senatorstuart@senate.virginia.gov |
| Delegate, 67th District | Hillary Pugh Kent (R) | General Assembly Building, Room 1018, 201 North 9th Street, Richmond, VA 23219 | DelHKent@house.virginia.gov |
| Delegate, 66th District<br>(Parts of Caroline & Spotsylvania) | Nicole Cole (D) | General Assembly Building, Room 828, 201 North 9th Street, Richmond, VA 23219 | DelNcole@house.virginia.gov |

## Preface

The Town Council of Bowling Green respectfully submits this 2027 Legislative Agenda for your review, consideration, and support. Council and the Town's administrative leadership vetted each initiative. The 2027 session falls in the Town's 360th anniversary year, a milestone for Caroline County's historic county seat.

Our mission is to serve the citizens of Bowling Green. The Town's visioning principles are:

- Vibrant, lively, thriving community
- Sustainable and resilient
- Connected regionally
- Walkable, connected neighborhoods
- A destination for visitors
- Small-town vibe; a village with historic charm
- A cultural and business center of Caroline County
- Beautiful public spaces and streetscapes

Each request aligns with the Town Council's Strategic Work Plan. The Bowling Green Action Plan goals behind these requests are:

- **Utilities:** Improve and maintain the Town's water and sewer infrastructure, including water supply, treatment facilities, and distribution and collection systems.
- **Economic Development:** Support business development and expansion that strengthens the tax base and provides gainful employment.
- **Smart Growth:** Support development that improves community vitality.
- **Vibrant Downtown:** Keep the Town an attractive, historic, and convenient center for commerce, culture, and services as the County seat.
- **Government Performance:** Improve organizational efficiency and service delivery through sound policies, procedures, and best practices.
- **Financial Management:** Provide fiscally responsible, sustainable, and resilient financial management for current and future needs.

The Council is grateful for the coordinated, collaborative partnership we share with you. We seek your support for these initiatives and for any other legislative matters affecting the Town during the 2027 session. Thank you for your service to our Town and the Commonwealth. We look forward to working with you in the session ahead.

# Resolution [26-__]

## A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BOWLING GREEN, VIRGINIA, ADOPTING THE 2027 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

WHEREAS, the Town of Bowling Green is affected by actions of the United States Congress, the Virginia General Assembly, and other governing bodies; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council wishes to adopt a legislative agenda setting out legislative priorities, positions, requested sponsors, and actions for each item; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the agenda gives direction to Town staff and legislative advocates and communicates the Town's requests for action and support to its legislative representatives; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council wishes the adopted agenda to be submitted to each of the Town's legislative representatives and advocates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Bowling Green, Virginia, that the 2027 Legislative Agenda is hereby approved and adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council directs Mrs. India Adams-Jacobs to take all necessary actions to advance the Town's legislative priorities, positions, sponsor requests, and action items, and to provide a copy of the agenda to each of the Town's legislative representatives and advocates.

Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Bowling Green, Virginia, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

_____

Tina Gambill, Mayor

ATTEST:

John Anzivino, Interim Town Manager/Clerk of Council

# 2027 Legislative Requests

| # | Item | Level | Goal Area | Position |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sewer system rehabilitation | State & Federal | Utilities | Request budget amendment patron; request Community Project Funding |
| 2 | Water system improvements | State | Utilities | Request budget amendment patron; request Community Project Funding |
| 3 | Support Bank Franchise Tax legislation closing data center loopholes | State | Financial Management, Government Performance | Support |
| 4 | Town's 360th anniversary (2027) | State | Vibrant Downtown; Economic Development | Request commending resolution and tourism support |
| 5 | Virginia Municipal League 2027 Legislative Program | State | All | Support |

# Request Details

## 1. Sewer System Rehabilitation

**Request:** State and federal funding for ongoing sewer main rehabilitation and replacement.

The Town has repaired aging sewer collection lines since 2016. Continued investment reduces inflow and infiltration, prevents failures, and protects downtown and residential service. Our request prioritizes high-priority areas affecting both the Town of Bowling Green and Caroline County critical public service areas, including the downtown core in the areas of the Town of Bowling Green Town Hall, Town of Bowling Green Police Department, Caroline County Courthouse, Caroline County Sheriff's Office, Caroline County Administration Building, and the Historic Caroline County Courthouse recently designated as part of the U.S. Civil Rights Trail.

## 2. Water System Improvements

**Request:** Continued support and coordination on state budget funding for the town's water quality improvement project, including earmarking funding through 2029.

The Town operates under a Virginia Department of Health Consent Order to bring its water treatment into compliance for the naturally occurring gross alpha radionuclide. In 2025, the Town was awarded grant funding for the treatment facility, wells, and water lines, funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

## 3. Bank Franchise Tax Legislation

**Support:** During the last general assembly session, Senator Roem and Delegate Maldonado patroned a bill aimed at banks that use data centers. As proposed, the bill would subject bank equipment in data centers to local personal property tax and close potential loopholes for data centers.

## 4. Bowling Green's 360th Anniversary

**Request:** A General Assembly commending resolution recognizing the Town's 360th anniversary in 2027, and Virginia Tourism Corporation support for anniversary events and marketing. State recognition would raise the Town's profile as a visitor destination.

## 5. Virginia Municipal League 2027 Legislative Program

**Support:** Support the Virginia Municipal League's 2027 Legislative Program (enclosed as attachment).

## 6–9. Policy Positions

- **Unfunded mandates:** Oppose new state mandates on towns without matching funding.
- **Local authority:** Oppose legislation that limits local land-use decisions or local revenue sources.
- **Small-town utility funding:** Support more grant funding, not only loans, for water and wastewater projects in small towns.

BETTER COMMUNITIES THROUGH SOUND GOVERNMENT

# 2027 VML Legislative Program
# Approved Oct. 12, 2026

## Legislative Program Priorities

**Local Land Use**

Localities must maintain control of local land use decisions. Neither the state nor the federal government should usurp or pre-empt a locality's authority to make such decisions; nor should they impose requirements that weaken planning and land use functions. This includes all types of housing, including but not limited to short-term rentals.

VML also supports local government authorities to promote affordable and mixed-income housing as well as the required infrastructure to facilitate infill development, redevelopment, and mixing of uses. Any mandate from the state should include full funding for the locality.

**Local Revenue Sources**

Local tax revenues are primarily derived from real estate, personal property (i.e., car tax), local sales and uses, Business, Professional, Occupational Licensing (BPOL), meals and transient occupancy taxes. These revenues are used to fund each locality's priorities that tend to focus on K-12 education and public safety. VML cannot support initiatives that phase out or eliminate sources of revenue to cities, counties, and towns without a firm commitment of ongoing general fund resources to offset local revenue losses.

**Housing – Tools for Communities to Meet Housing Needs**

Understanding the Commonwealth-wide need for more attainable, low-income and affordable housing, we support legislation and funding that enables localities to better meet their housing needs while respecting the critical role that local conditions and decision-making must play in development and planning.

**State Assistance to Local Law Enforcement Agencies (HB 599)**

Almost 70 percent of Virginians live in communities served by police departments. The State created a program of financial assistance to local police departments (HB 599) when it imposed an annexation moratorium on cities more than 30 years ago. It has increasingly de-emphasized this funding obligation as a priority but has never compromised on the annexation moratorium.

VML calls for the state to honor its commitment to local governments and public safety by funding the program as stipulated in the Code of Virginia or lift the moratorium on annexation.

## Legislative Program Items (listed in alphabetical order)

**CSA State and Local Funding Partnership**

Local governments administer the Children's Services Act (CSA) program on behalf of the state, and local governments share in the funding responsibilities with the state. Local governments have consistently supported efforts to contain program costs, particularly the private day special education program. VML adamantly opposes the capping of state funding responsibility for this and any other component of the CSA program, which simply shifts the funding burden for mandated services onto local governments.

**Fire/E911 Funding**

VML supports maintaining the current distribution of aid to localities from the Virginia Fire Program Fund until a more complete examination of funding needs, administration, and distributions can be conducted; the current study is not broad enough to serve as a basis for meaningful change.

VML supports the Virginia Department of Emergency Management's request to appropriate the estimated $40M from the E-911 Wireless Fund to localities; an administrative issue in 2026 meant that this money was not appropriated to the detriment of local 911 system operations.

**Local and Regional Juvenile Detention Facilities**

Local and regional juvenile detention facilities play an integral role in the continuum of Virginia's juvenile justice system. A major consideration in maintaining the system of local and regional detention facilities is to serve youth closer to their families, their community support systems, the courts with which they are involved, and their legal counsel.

Any state-level discussion of the future of this system, including efforts involving closures or consolidations, must include the major stakeholders in the system, such as members of the juvenile and domestic relations courts system, detention facility managers, and youth/family advocates.

Discussions should also consider regions looking to open facilities to serve their communities and avoid sending youth long distances for placement; include examination of ways the state can improve investments in facilities to update key infrastructure; address behavioral health needs of youth and their families to improve outcomes; and find ways to effectively address state requirements for educational services.

**Local Excise Taxes**

VML supports the statewide authority for local governments to establish an excise tax on the sale of vaping products.

**Prioritizing State Funding in Response to Changes in Federal Funding**

As the federal government fundamentally changes its funding relationship with states, localities, and organizations that serve communities, VML asks that the state prioritize its resources for vital services to help protect and serve children, families, and the most vulnerable in our communities.

**Referendum Authority for Towns**

VML supports inclusion of towns in any legislation authorizing referenda by local governments.

**Short Term Rental Registry Exemptions**

Virginia Code Section 15.2-983(B)(2), enacted in 2017, created several broad exemptions from local short-term rental registry requirements. These exemptions have created health, safety, welfare, and transparency concerns for Virginia localities. VML supports narrowing or removal of these broad exemptions.

**Statewide Building Code - Lis Pendens**

VML supports expanding the lis pendens statute to allow a memorandum of lis pendens to be filed when there is an underlying action seeking to enforce the Virginia Statewide Building Code and to amend *Code of Virginia* Section 36-105(C)(4) to provide that if a lis pendens has been filed, a new notice of violation does not need to be issued for the same violation, and any pending non-criminal enforcement action, or enforcement appeal may continue with the new purchaser.

**State-mandated Tax Policy Changes and Local Revenue**

Locally elected officials understand the needs of their community as well as the burden of taxation on their constituents. The Commonwealth should refrain from encroaching upon the responsibility of local officials by imposing additional exemptions from locally generated revenues or imposing additional red tape that make it more difficult to raise revenue in their communities.

**Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF)/Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) Full Funding**

VML supports the continued full state funding for the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) and the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) to include projects currently in progress.

**Sovereign Immunity**

Expanding liability and eroding immunities at state levels across the nation have had a chilling effect on the actions of local government officials contributing to local government insurance problems, creating immense financial risks (particularly for legal costs), and posing a substantial obstacle to the provision of needed public services. The Virginia General Assembly should strengthen and must maintain the principles of sovereign immunity for local governments and their officials.

**Support Establishment of the Virginia Water Affordability Program**

VML supports the establishment of the Virginia Water Affordability Program using State general funds to provide support for municipal utility customers with delinquent utility payments,

**Support for Public Education**

A General Assembly joint subcommittee continues to address recommendations from the 2023 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) report on the Standards of Quality (SOQ), including recommendations on updating the SOQ in the short- and long-run. VML encourages the General Assembly to expeditiously implement and fund the JLARC recommendations to more equitably share the costs of K-12 public education with local governments and to ensure the overall success of students across the Commonwealth.

VML supports innovation in public schools but opposes efforts to limit local authority or to divert state funds from the public education system.

**Transportation Funding – Annual Maintenance Payments**

VML supports maintaining or increasing the annual maintenance payment rates set by the Commonwealth Transportation Board; VML opposes any reduction in these payments.

**Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)**

The *Code of Virginia* requires that individuals convicted of DUI enroll in, and successfully complete, an alcohol safety action program. The financial sustainability of the program, originally intended to be funded completely with client fee revenues, remains an open question. The Commonwealth should provide appropriate funding from its own resources and not shift responsibility for program administration and funding to localities for this state-mandated program.

# Resolution [26-__]

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Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Bowling Green, Virginia, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

_____

Tina Gambill, Mayor

ATTEST:

John Anzivino, Interim Town Manager/Clerk of Council