

The background of the entire page is a photograph of three wind turbines silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a pale yellow at the top. The ocean is visible in the lower half of the image, with gentle waves. A large, blue, arrow-shaped graphic with a yellow border points from the left side of the page towards the right, partially overlapping the sunset scene.

# 2020 Annual Report



# Friends & Colleagues

This past year was full of opportunity, growth, and adaptation as we pivoted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We heard from many local businesses that were faced with challenging circumstances but our team was prepared to help them overcome every obstacle, answer any and all questions, and ease their uncertainties with confidence and understanding.

We continuously worked closely with the Virginia Department of Health to ensure the health and safety of our community was a top priority and didn't hesitate to mask up and socially distance before offering the necessary tools and knowledge that Chesapeake needed to succeed.

Throughout 2020, we assisted existing businesses with expansion, further developed our communities, increased employment opportunities, and individually awarded up to \$10,000 in recovery grants to small businesses that were financially impacted by COVID-19 – all in the midst of a global economic crisis. Over the course of the year, we awarded grants to 257 small businesses from a wide variety of industries including education, healthcare, hospitality, personal care, professional services, recreation and tourism, restaurant and food services, and retail. Of these businesses, 32 were veteran-owned and 119 were SWaM-certified!

With a promising commitment to our community as a whole, the City of Chesapeake Economic Development Department did everything possible, and in our power, to ensure the work we did was essential for our companies and residents.

**339** Total Applications      **\$2.5 Million** Awarded Grants



# Year-End Review

 **2,680**  
New Jobs

 **397**  
New Businesses

 **\$271,217,019**  
Capital Investment

**\$105,492,502**  
New Investment

**\$165,724,517**  
Existing Investment

Business District Investments

<b>\$25,181,555</b> Deep Creek Cavalier	<b>\$50,053,004</b> Great Bridge
<b>\$124,743,644</b> Greenbrier	<b>\$1,034,140</b> Indian River
<b>\$17,809,378</b> South Norfolk	<b>\$52,395,297</b> Western Branch

## Capital Investments by Industry

 <b>\$51,665,645</b> Office	 <b>\$66,185,054</b> Retail
 <b>\$47,936,872</b> Medical	 <b>\$20,131,500</b> Land
 <b>\$73,651,731</b> Industrial	 <b>\$11,646,217</b> Flex

## Amazon Expansion

**\$700+ Million**  
Investment

**650,000-Square-Foot**  
Operational Facility

**1,500**  
New Jobs Created

**\$15/Hour**  
Starting Pay for All New Hires

**Up To 95%**  
of Tuition Pre-Paid for Courses Related  
to In-Demand Fields

## Plasser American Corporation

**\$52.6 Million**  
Investment

**60,000-Square-Foot**  
Office Building & Incubator Space

**82,000-Square-Foot**  
Manufacturing Facility &  
Industrial Paint Booth

**98**  
New Jobs Created

**\$65,000+**  
Average Salary

## Chesapeake Regional Healthcare Expansion

**\$85 Million**  
Investment

**72,000-Square-Foot**  
Critical Care Tower Expansion

Doubling Cancer Treatment  
Center Size

Renovated Intensive Care Unit  
& Obstetrics Rooms

**83**  
New Jobs Expected to be Created

## Total Fiber Recovery Job Growth

**\$49 Million**  
Investment

**68**  
New Jobs Created

**\$48,000+**  
Average Salary

**300,000 Tons**  
of Mixed Paper Processed Annually

# In Closing

Looking to the year ahead, the City of Chesapeake Economic Development department is committed to offering businesses from all industries the necessary tools and knowledge they need to succeed in the dynamic Chesapeake economy. We will continue to support local, national, and global business ventures with multiple services that incorporate the area's vast economic opportunities and work to provide new and existing businesses with resources such as site selection, marketing services, and demographic data, in addition to investment guidance and expertise. In addition, we look forward to rapidly growing our offshore wind industry to help provide a steady gust of renewable power for our residents and business owners.

**We are excited to see what's to come in 2021.**



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