

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Tide Report October 2025

Stay connected with the latest updates, business highlights, and opportunities from Virginia Beach Economic Development.

[Business Development](#)
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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY



Virginia Beach Highlights Defense Investment Opportunities and Global Partnerships at DSEI London

Virginia Beach Economic Development (VBED) showcased the city's thriving defense ecosystem at [DSEI London](#), one of the world's largest defense tradeshows, highlighting investment opportunities and hosting more than 150 global company representatives at a special reception featuring remarks from Deputy City Manager Amanda Jarratt. The mission also included meetings with Essex County leaders to further strengthen ties and collaborations across industry, education and tourism.

Virginia Beach Showcases U.S. Defense Opportunities at U.K. ADS Event with Sirius Analysis

Virginia Beach sponsored and presented at a U.K. Aerospace, Defense and Security (ADS) event, connecting companies eager to engage with the U.S. defense industry. The team was joined by Sirius Analysis, which last fall established its U.S. presence in Virginia Beach's International Incubator.



Town Center Cold Pressed Brews Success and Prepares for Expansion

Founded in 2014, Town Center Cold Pressed has grown from a single juice café into a regional favorite, delighting hundreds of thousands of customers with fresh, handcrafted food and ethically sourced, locally roasted coffee. Along the way, Cold Pressed has built strong partnerships with local farms, artisans, businesses and organizations such as *Tarnished Truth*, *ODU* and even the *Coast Guard* to create unique products by and for the Hampton Roads community.

Now, with proven success and community support, Cold Pressed is preparing to expand through franchising opportunities. The next chapter will bring their signature blend of quality, collaboration and community spirit to new neighborhoods far beyond their home in Virginia Beach.

Virginia Beach Seeks Proposals For City Land 1020-1040 Laskin Road

The City of Virginia Beach is inviting proposals for the purchase and development of 5.49 acres at 1020-1040 Laskin Road and a portion of 725 Oriole Drive, seeking uses compatible with Accident Potential Zone 2 (APZ-2) guidelines. Proposals are due by **3:00 p.m. on November 21, 2025**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

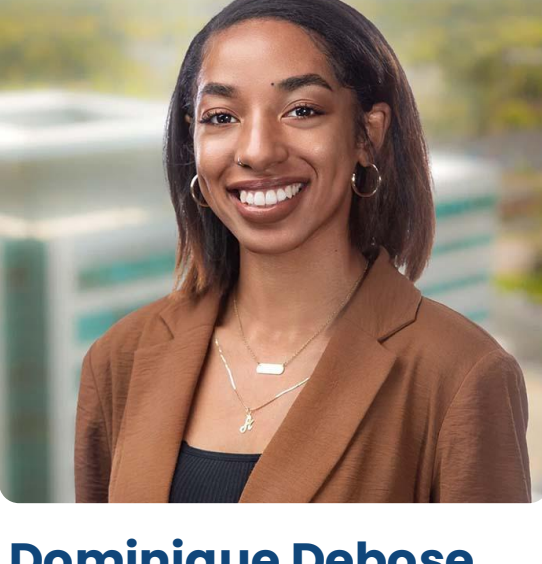
Virginia Beach Seeks Developers for New Action Sports Facility

The City of Virginia Beach is inviting proposals for a state-of-the-art Action Sports Facility near the Convention and Sports Centers on 19th Street. Planned amenities could include skateboarding, BMX, rock climbing, indoor ice and water sports and more. Developers and operators interested in shaping this exciting new venue must submit proposals by **3:00 p.m. on December 5, 2025**.

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VBED Welcomes Paul Bayer as Business Development Manager

VBED welcomes Paul Bayer as its new Business Development Attraction. Paul brings a decade of real estate and economic development experience, including key roles with the City of Norfolk. A longtime local resident and father of five, Paul is committed to supporting the Virginia Beach business community and helping attract and grow employers that advance the region's economic and security goals.



Dominique DeBose Promoted to Business Development Representative II at VBED

Dominique DeBose has been promoted to Business Development Representative II, recognizing her dedication and impact since joining VBED just over a year ago. Dominique is central to strengthening key relationships both domestically and internationally while leading significant special projects for VBED. Congratulations Dominique!



Virginia Beach Unveils Final Draft of 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Virginia Beach has released the final draft of its 2040 Comprehensive Plan, outlining strategies for sustainable growth, transportation, housing, and environmental preservation over the next two decades. Residents are encouraged to review the plan and provide feedback by October 30, 2025, to ensure community priorities are accurately reflected. [Read the full plan and weigh in here.](#)



Virginia Beach Advances Smart Manufacturing with Maxbyte Training

On September 25, VBED, The HIVE Business Resource Center, and Maxbyte Technologies hosted an insightful session on Autonomous Mobile Robots, equipping local manufacturers to plan smarter, more cost-efficient operations. This partnership strengthens the region's industrial future by upskilling the workforce and accelerating the adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies.

Coming 2026: Façade Improvement Grants (FIG)

Thinking about exterior upgrades for your business? Façade Improvement Grants return in 2026.

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Follow us to see the Department's activities in real time.

BUSINESS RESOURCES AND EVENTS

VEDP Unveils New Global Market Reports to Guide Virginia Businesses Abroad

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership's (VEDP) Global Network consultants have released five new country profiles—covering Chile, Estonia-Latvia-Lithuania, Kenya, Peru and Tanzania—highlighting routes to market and priority sectors to help Virginia companies expand internationally.

[DOWNLOAD REPORTS](#)

October Brings Key Global Trade Opportunities for Virginia Companies

Virginia exporters and business leaders have four exciting opportunities this month to gain an edge in international markets.

October 8: *Securing Global Trade: CMMC and the Federal Cybersecurity Landscape*, a must-attend webinar with trusted advisor Albert Strong on navigating fast-moving federal cybersecurity requirements.

October 14-16: *Virginia Maritime Association's International Trade Symposium*, held in Norfolk, this is the East Coast's premier gathering for ports, logistics and trade—complete with a special \$250 ticket option for Virginia exporters.

October 21-22: *Trade Pulse: Global Challenges, Strategic Solutions* will be held in Roanoke, where global experts and business strategists will deliver fresh insights and actionable strategies to help your company compete and win.

October 28-30: *Foreign Military Sales & Financing Seminar* A 3-day in-person training with VEDP and Fairchild Fisk Giroux in Richmond about navigating foreign military sales, financing, direct commercial sales and partner engagement strategies for Virginia defense exporters.

VEDP Connects Virginia Businesses with Key International Markets

VEDP is organizing two new international trade opportunities to help Virginia companies expand globally, connect with key markets and build lasting business relationships.

WHX Dubai 2026 | Feb. 9-12, 2026 – Connect with global healthcare leaders, explore innovations, and expand your network at the Middle East's largest healthcare trade show; [register](#) by Nov. 28, 2025.

Trade Mission to Chile & Peru | May 6-13, 2026 – Meet potential sales partners and customers in two of Latin America's most dynamic markets; [register](#) by Mar. 7, 2026.

Economic Development Investment Program (EDIP) Grants for Qualifying Business

The city's [Economic Development Investment Program \(EDIP\)](#) is a discretionary incentive program with cash grants available to assist qualifying companies in growing their business. If you are a new or expanding business in the city, you may be eligible.

International Incubator Office Space

The [International Incubator](#) is a soft-landing office space designed for international companies planning expansion into the U.S. market. Strategically located in Town Center and adjacent to the Economic Development office, the Incubator provides an ideal environment for growing businesses. [Contact staff](#) to learn more.

Use Virginia SCAN to Research Available Sites and Properties

For a comprehensive look at available sites and properties in Virginia Beach, visit [Virginia SCAN](#), operated by Virginia Economic Development Partnership.



Subscribe to The HIVE e-newsletter to learn more about events, activities and resources supporting our small business entrepreneurial ecosystem in Virginia Beach.



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