



MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
PLANNING & GIS SERVICES

PLANNING  
GIS & MAPPING

755 ROANOKE STREET, SUITE 2A, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA 24073-3177

## **Montgomery County, Virginia**

### **Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Application Proposal**

### **Demonstration Grants Opportunity DTPH56-09-SN-0002**

Montgomery County, Virginia is pleased to submit an application for the Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) being provided by the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) as part of the Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA). As a participating community in the PIPA process and guideline development, many aspects of pipeline safety and prudent land use planning ideas have been discovered by the County. This grant represents an opportunity for Montgomery County to demonstrate the valuable lessons learned through this process and from pipeline incidents that have occurred to proactively plan for land use development activities and prepare for a potential incident in Montgomery County, Virginia. The proposed grant application provides an opportunity for Montgomery County to increase communication with existing pipeline operators within the County, increase GIS mapping database, analysis and modeling capabilities and knowledge of pipeline characteristics and properties, increase awareness of pipeline safety, increase planning awareness adjacent to pipelines and increase public safety awareness and response to a potential incident. The County's project team that will work on this grant project will primarily consist of the following individuals:

- Kevin Byrd, Comprehensive Planner
- Martin M. McMahon, County Attorney
- Robert Pearsall, GIS Manager
- Ruth Richey, Public Information Director
- Steven Sandy, Planning Director
- Michael Sutherland, GIS Analyst
- Neal Turner, Emergency Services Coordinator

These individuals will work together to meet the intended goals of the grant application. In addition, the team will work with the pipeline operators, Local and State emergency service providers, and the citizens of Montgomery County.

To facilitate the proposed goals of this grant the project team, the grant proposal will highlight the following:

1. A review of pipeline mapping database will be conducted with pipeline operators in the community to identify locations of pipelines and characteristics for County mapping (PIPA Practices: BL01, BL02, ND01)
2. Map existing pipelines and easements as well as proposed pipeline easements, consultation zone buffer, and pipeline characteristics and create GIS mapping database layer to be used during land use planning process (PIPA Practices: BL01, BL02)
3. Analyze pipeline consultation zone and determine hazards within the zone such as existing structures, major roadways, critical facilities, etc. (PIPA Practice: BL04, BL05, ND01)
4. Revise current development review process to incorporate increased awareness of pipeline into the planning and development process (PIPA Practices: ND01, ND05, ND06, ND07, ND09, ND10)
5. Explore model zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations related to PIPA best practices and determine potential legal issues associated with implementation (PIPA Practices: BL04, BL05, BL06, ND01, ND05, ND06, ND07, ND09, ND10)
6. Collaborate with pipeline operators to develop educational materials for developers and landowners about safety issues regarding development around pipelines and the importance of a Consultation Zone and/or Planning Zone (PIPA Practices: BL04, BL05, BL06, ND01)
7. Work with County emergency services coordinator, Sheriff's Office and other local and State emergency service providers to develop an emergency response plan for a pipeline incident using a table-top exercise and an "in the field exercise" (PIPA Practices: BL10, ND23)