

CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA

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The City of Danville and AVRC Announce Partnership

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~ The City and the Advanced Vehicle Research Center partner to improve energy efficiency and environmental impacts of municipal vehicles and equipment ~

DANVILLE – Following a competitive request for proposals, the City has selected the Advanced Vehicle Research Center (AVRC) to help modernize its municipal fleet vehicles to improve energy efficiencies. AVRC believes it will be possible to realize significant improvement in the City’s fuel economy through an initiative-driven partnership.

Through this relationship with AVRC, the City intends to test energy efficiency and environmental improving technologies and, if demonstrated as cost-effective and environmentally beneficial, to deploy selected technologies throughout its fleet. The City will serve as a demonstration site for AVRC to market proven technologies to other local governments in Virginia and elsewhere.

“This unique partnership gives the City of Danville access to AVRC’s specialized expertise in helping us improve the energy efficiency and operating cost of our municipal fleet and motorized equipment. It will be a win-win proposition for the company, the City Government, our tax and utility ratepayers, and the environment,” stated Joe King, Deputy City Manager for the City of Danville.

The program will enhance the reputation of the Danville area as a leader in energy innovation and related economic development, provide case studies and results assessment of operational savings, and contribute to Danville Utilities’ “smart grid” efforts. AVRC and the City will actively seek funding through state and federal grants and other funding sources, both commercial and private, to insure the success of the initiative.

AVRC President Dick Dell added, "We're very excited about this opportunity to work with the City of Danville and to assist them in receiving maximum advantage of the new federal economic stimulus packages. Danville is quickly becoming a recognized leader in new energy technologies, and AVRC is proud to be a partner in this effort."

AVRC is building a new research and development facility in the City-County Cyber Park. Mayor Sherman Saunders heralds their arrival as signaling a positive turn for the Danville area's economy. "AVRC's practical applications of cutting edge automotive technologies bring some real horsepower to the Cyber Park and this new partnership will directly benefit the City, Danville Utilities, and our community," he said. Coy Harville, Chairman of the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors is likewise excited about the partnership and sees this as a great opportunity for the region. "It gives me great pleasure to support AVRC and the City of Danville in a unique partnership that could improve energy efficiency and operating costs in local government operations."

The City and AVRC will endeavor to coordinate efforts with Virginia Tech, Danville Community College, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, and other entities. AVRC is located in the heart of Cyber Park, a joint industrial park between the City of Danville and Pittsylvania County.