

**Fairfax County Small Business Commission
Small Business News**

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April 2016 Newsletter

**SBA Announces 2nd National Road Tour to
Champion STEM Innovation**

The SBA announced that it is launching its second Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) innovation tour, led by the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR). The Tour, which aims to make America's STEM innovators aware of the available resources they can utilize, will visit 20 states and feature participation from 11 federal agencies.

The SBIR Tour is targeting advanced technology communities, including women and minority-owned small businesses in states that are underutilizing available funding opportunities. Events kicked off on April 4-6 in the Gulf Coast, and the Tour will be in South Carolina and Tennessee during the second leg of the Tour starting April 18. Virginia has no listed tour dates yet, but the Tour will be adding additional locations in the near future.

SBIR and STTR together award in excess of \$2.5 billion each year to small businesses in STEM fields. The Tour presents an opportunity for local businesses to access additional funding for development.

For more information and for other Tour locations please visit:

<http://www.sbirroadtour.com/>

GO Virginia

A Legislative package for the Virginia Initiative for Growth and Opportunity in Each Region (GO Virginia) is currently awaiting final action on Governor McAuliffe's desk. GO Virginia is a bi-partisan, business-minded coalition created to foster cooperation and collaboration between the business, government and education sectors of the Commonwealth.

GO has proposed several state-funded incentive programs to promote business growth, including start-up grants for regionally impactful projects, tax revenue returns for localities that share development costs, and matching-fund support for research and development.

GO Virginia's plan also calls for no new taxes or changes to local governance. Millions of dollars in funding have already been included in the budget plan on Governor McAuliffe's desk. If the Governor approves GO Virginia's plan, small businesses can look forward to grant opportunities for regional development as Virginia shifts away from its heavy reliance on federal contracts.

For more information visit and to join GO Virginia: **<http://www.govirginia.org/>**

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