On January 7, 2019, the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission celebrated their 20 year anniversary. The Commission has been a huge part of the development of a diverse economy in southern and southwest Virginia. Representatives from Southside Virginia Community College (SVCC) joined in the celebration.

The Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission is a 28-member body created by the 1999 General Assembly. Its mission is the promotion of economic growth and development in tobacco-dependent communities, using proceeds of the national tobacco settlement.

In recent comments celebrating the anniversary, first Executive Director of the Commission, Carthan Currin, called the creation of the Commission one of the most consequential commissions the General Assembly created in the latter part of the 20th Century.

"These resources have had an incredible impact on Southwest and Southside Virginia that will last for generations to come," he said.

Below are many of the programs and projects at SVCC that have received vital funding from the commission in the past two decades.