



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pittsylvania County Administration

Contact: David Smitherman, County Administrator

Phone: (434) 432-7710

Email: david.smitherman@pittgov.org

City of Danville

Contact: Ken Larking, City Manager

Phone: (434) 799-5100

Email: klarking@danvilleva.gov

**Danville City/Pittsylvania County Named as one of the Top 10 Micropolitan Areas
in the United States by Site Selection Magazine**

CHATHAM, VA —The City of Danville and Pittsylvania County were recognized by Site Selection Magazine as a Top 10 Micropolitan Area in the United States. The Danville Micropolitan Area, which includes Pittsylvania County, was listed as the No. 6 ranked micropolitan area based on the number of qualifying new and expanding economic development projects in 2019. Danville’s micropolitan area outranked 98 percent of the nation’s micropolitan areas.

The Danville micropolitan area of Pittsylvania County and the City of Danville has been listed in the Site Selection’s Top 100 for the past seven years, ranking in the top 10 three of those years. This ranking is an important benchmark because it compares 542 micropolitan areas of similar size across the United States. The ranking considers three key project parameters – at least \$1 million of capital investment, creation of 50 or more jobs and at least 20,000 square feet of new floor space.



“Pittsylvania County and the City of Danville share a tremendous collaborative partnership, and this has enabled us to successfully recruit companies and help them expand. A total of seven projects bringing in 1,315 jobs and \$453 million in capital investment were announced in 2019. We are extremely proud of our achievement and this recognition,” said County Administrator David M. Smitherman.

City Manager, Ken Larking, is not surprised that the region received such a high ranking. “We’ve been aggressive in our approach to economic development and it has really paid off,” Larking said. “I believe our regional partnership has been the key to our success.”

“Over the past seven years, the City of Danville and Pittsylvania County have been ranked as one of Site Selection Magazine’s Top Micropolitan Areas,” said Corrie Bobe, Interim Director of Economic Development for Danville. “This prestigious ranking is evidence that regional investment in infrastructure, quality of life and workforce assets has made our community more attractive to private investment. The transformation our region has seen over the past decade would not have happened without the support of our political leaders and business community.”

“We are honored to be in the top 10 for Site Selection Magazine’s *Top Micropolitan List*. This illustrates that our tireless efforts and regional approach to marketing the community are working,” said Matt Rowe Pittsylvania County Economic Development Director. “On behalf of Pittsylvania County, I would personally like to thank each company and their respective executives for deciding their future was in our growing community. 2019 was an exceptional year and we look to carry this momentum into 2020.”



“Obtaining top 10 status for the past two years, the Danville and Pittsylvania County micropolitan area join the ranks of stalwart players like Findlay, Ohio near Toledo and Tupelo, Mississippi known for its megasite and supply chain attraction,” said Linda Green, Executive Director of the Southern Virginia Regional Alliance (SVRA), which markets the region. “Showing consistency in caring for existing industries has a direct correlation to the attraction of new industries and this area has mastered this with a consistent, steadfast approach to economic retention and attraction.”

Site Selection Magazine is a trade resource for expansion decision makers, from CEOs and human resource professionals to consultants and facility planners. Micropolitan areas are defined as an urban area with a population of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 residents and its surrounding communities.

For more information about Danville and Pittsylvania County sites, including the Southern Virginia Megasite at Berry Hill (SVMS) and other opportunities, please contact Matt Rowe at (434) 432-1669 or email matthew.rowe@pittgov.org, Corrie Bobe at (434) 793-1753 or email corrie.bobe@discoverdanville.com or visit our website at www.discoverdanvillepittsylvania.com.

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