Initiated in Spring 2011, this community dialogue project partners the Department of Theatre & Cinema at Virginia Tech with the New River Valley Planning District Commission (NRVPDC) and its 3-year regional planning project, The Livability Initiative. As a strategy in gathering qualitative data on community members’ thoughts and feelings about life in the region, the NRVPDC commissioned the group of actors, musicians, and public dialogue facilitators to host small community gatherings. Using participatory theatre and music techniques, citizens could express their views on life in the NRV—as it is now and could be in the future. These community perspectives have been integrated into the NRVPDC’s planning process.

**Participants:** Department of Theatre & Cinema at Virginia Tech, New River Valley Planning District Commission (NRVPDC)

**Type:** Participatory theatre and music project

**Date:** Spring 2011 - Present