



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
**GROWTH &
OPPORTUNITY**
IN EACH REGION

THE HONORABLE CARRIE H. CHENERY

Secretary of Commerce and Trade

BIOGRAPHY

Carrie H. Chenery is a native Virginian with two decades of experience in economic development, public policy, government relations, and strategic communications through both public service and private business. Her career spans identifying business growth opportunities for clients, leading a regional economic development organization, managing economic development policy for Virginia's largest private industries, and shepherding legislative and budgetary priorities through the Virginia General Assembly.

Prior to her appointment as Secretary of Commerce & Trade, Chenery founded and led Valley Pike Partners, helping companies grow across Virginia with modern strategies in public affairs, business development, and community engagement. Carrie previously served as the Executive Director of the Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP), the region's economic development and marketing organization. During her tenure, the region announced new and existing business projects representing over \$460 million in capital investment and 1,900 new jobs while unifying seven counties and five cities under a shared economic development vision, building coalitions among 160 private sector investors, and serving as the region's strategic voice to site consultants, partner agencies, and elected and appointed officials.

Prior to her leadership role at SVP, Carrie served the Virginia Office of the Governor as the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture & Forestry. She was responsible for the oversight and advancement of economic development efforts, including administration of the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) fund, related to Virginia's largest private industries of agriculture and forestry. During her tenure, the AFID fund contributed to the announcement of over \$46 million in new private capital investment and the creation of over 400 jobs.

Prior to her role in the Governor's Office, she gained wide-ranging economic development, marketing, government relations, and communication experience across diverse industry sectors as the Manager of Legislation & Policy at the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and as a Director of Government Affairs with the law firm Williams Mullen.

A graduate of Virginia Tech, Carrie earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Policy & Planning and Agricultural & Applied Economics. She is also a graduate of the Political Leaders Program through the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia. She previously served as a gubernatorial appointee to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority Board of Directors and the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors.

Carrie has been named one of North America's Top 50 Economic Developers by Consultant Connect and as an Outstanding Alumni by the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

She and her husband, Taylor, are the proud parents of two daughters.