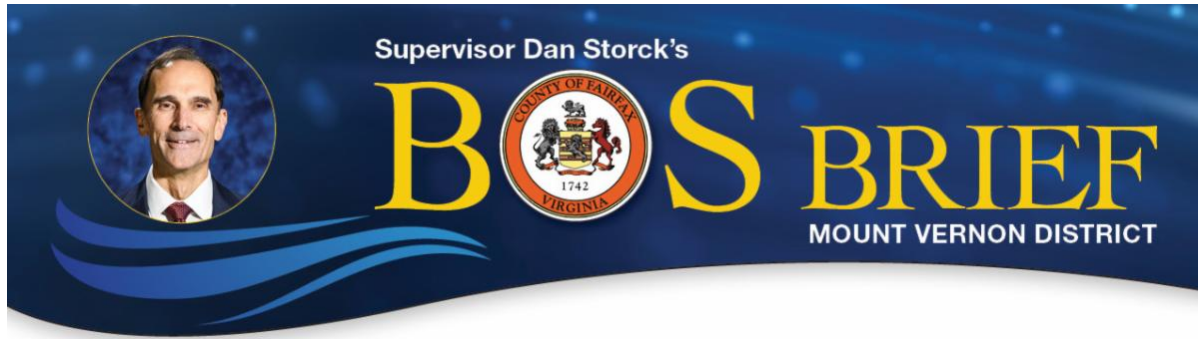


April 26, 2022



**Dear Neighbors,**

At Tuesday's Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting, we **approved the FY 2023 Budget Markup Package**, which reflects changes made to the **FY 2023 Advertised Budget** originally proposed by the County Executive. Adoption of the final budget, which typically does not change between mark up and approval, will be **voted on by the Board on May 10**. This budget markup comes after **weeks of hearing from residents and businesses**, including three days of public hearings, hundreds of emails, conversations with many of you, budget staff and my colleagues. **Supporting our residents**, continuing our vibrant growth and **minimizing our expenditures** have been my focus and the balance I have sought.

Our County, businesses and residents are **continuing to get stronger** as we leave the worst of COVID behind us, though our continued focus remains essential to **keep our recovery going**. My colleagues and I worked hard to **balance the increasing property valuations** and their potential tax increases with the growing supply chain disruptions, inflation cost pressures and **demands for more affordable housing**, community services, and infrastructure improvements along with competitive compensation for our County employees, **especially police and fire**, and the need to **fully fund our children's education** after past years of disruptions.

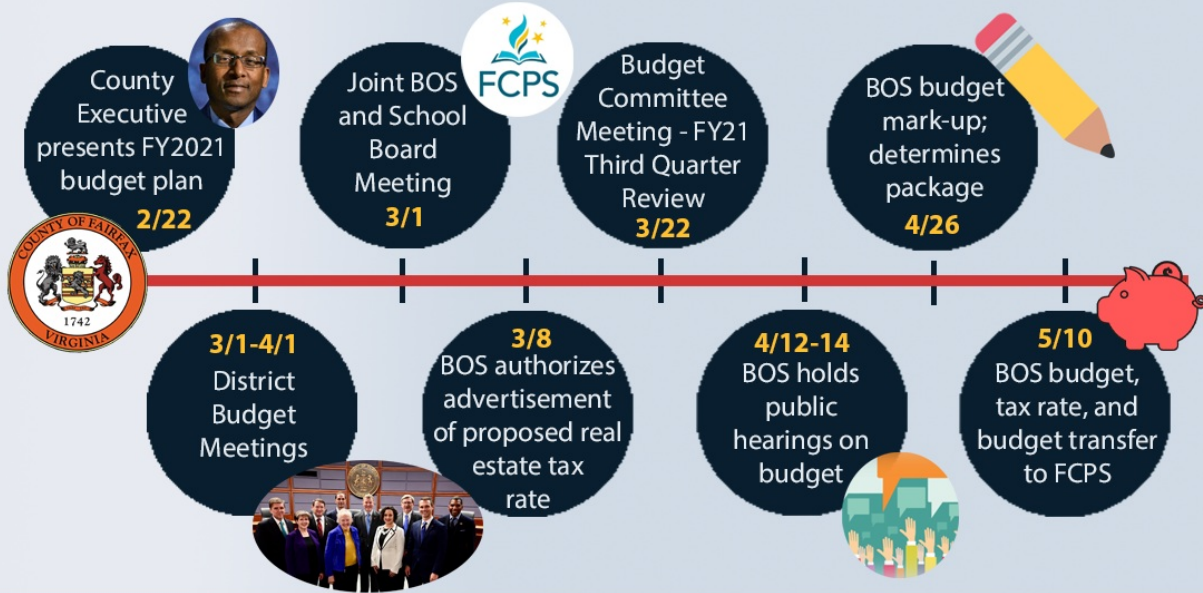
We are all experiencing **rapidly rising costs**. As a resident and homeowner, I am very aware of the impact of all these increases and **have worked diligently to mitigate** the County's contribution to that. This year, the Board has also expanded **our program** to help an **additional 2,000 seniors and individuals with disabilities** on limited income who may have difficulty paying their tax bill and need some relief. Please don't hesitate to contact my office **if you have questions or need support**.

Respectfully yours in public service,

Dan Storck  
Supervisor, Mount Vernon District  
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

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# FY 2023 Budget Timeline



## FY 2023 Budget Markup

The Board approved a **3-cent tax rate reduction** and additional adjustments, resulting in lowering the current rate of \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed value to \$1.11. We also approved **15% tax relief for personal property taxes**, providing almost \$98 million in total tax relief for vehicle owners. **I worked hard to lower the real estate and personal property tax rates.**

This Budget funds **community and County priorities**, maintains our Triple A bond rating and provides competitive increases for our County & school employees. We all recognize that our employees are our **biggest asset and infrastructure investments**. Through COVID, we learned that our smart, experienced staff can work their way through these difficult years. We must be **competitive in the job market** to retain them. It is especially important that we retain our public safety employees, as we prepare to open the **Lorton District Police Station** next year.

### Budget Highlights:

- Reduces the real estate tax rate from \$1.14 to \$1.11
- Personal property taxes will be assessed at 85% of value (lowered from 100%)
- School request fully funded
- Compensation increases for our County and uniformed employees
- Increased investment in affordable housing
- Lowered the M&T Machinery & Tools Tax to help small businesses

I heard from many of you about **funding for our parks**. Please know we worked closely with the Park Authority, **added additional support** and are assured they have the funding they need this year. We will continue to assess future needs.

I also advocated for **lowering the M&T tax** to help our local breweries, **fully funding schools**, improving our environment and continuing our **affordable housing** efforts, among many other issues. I am pleased we were able to expand our **tax relief program for qualifying seniors and disabled persons** and I encourage those who are eligible to apply.

It is unfortunate that in Virginia, real estate and personal property taxes are one of the **few sources of revenue available** to pay for our County school, police, fire, park and other services. Currently, the **state returns to us only about 23%** of what Fairfax County residents contribute in state taxes. (These taxes are principally contributed through the fairest and most progressive form—income taxes.) If the **state returned just 1% more** of the income tax rate back to us, we could **reduce our real estate tax rate by \$.20!** The **state also funds only approximately 23% of our schools budget**, with the balance coming from the County. In most counties south of us, the state funds schools at close to

50% or higher. **Increased state funding** for schools, public safety, mental health services, affordable housing and our many other Fairfax priorities would make a big difference in reducing the need to **County-fund these services** residents expect and need.

I thanked the Chairman, my Board colleagues, the County Executive and Deputies, and the Budget office **working collaboratively over many weeks** to bring this budget together. This budget also supports my core beliefs, that you have heard before - **Leave No One Behind and Help All Reach Their Full Potential**. As we re-envision the Richmond Highway Corridor, we must provide options for all who live here to continue to do so and provide them with a variety of **opportunities for growth and development**.

## COVID-19

### Uptick in COVID-19 Cases Prompts Fairfax Health District to Urge Continued Vigilance

Over the past two weeks in the Fairfax Health District, **cases of COVID-19 have risen by 62%**; and since a low on March 21, the daily number of cases has about**tripled**. Although not as high as the peak in cases seen in January, **this change is concerning**. Just during the past week, there have been **15 new outbreaks** (clusters of three or more connected cases of illness) reported in the county with 12 occurring in schools and daycares. Despite this surge in cases, hospitalizations continue to be low, and the **community level remains at "low."** [Learn more...](#)

## District Information & Upcoming Events

### Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit Meetings

FCDOT is hosting two in-person meetings for the Richmond Highway BRT project – one on April 28 and one on May 3. [More information...](#)



**TWO UPCOMING MEETINGS**  
**PRÓXIMAS DOS REUNIONES**

April 28	#1	28 de abril	May 3	#2	3 de mayo
<b>Design Updates &amp; N Kings Hwy Intersection Improvements (@ Shields Ave)</b> Actualizaciones de diseño y mejoras en la intersección de N Kings Hwy (@ Shields Ave)			<b>Turn Lane Analysis</b> Análisis de los carriles de giro		
<b>Bryant High School (2709 Popkins Ln)</b> <b>Open House 6:30-9 PM, Presentation 7 PM</b> Jornada de puertas abiertas 6:30-9 PM, presentación 7 PM			<b>Community Center in Lee District (7950 Audubon Ave)</b> <b>Open House 6:30-9 PM, Presentation 7 PM</b> Jornada de puertas abiertas 6:30-9 PM, presentación 7 PM		

[fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt](https://fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/richmond-hwy-brt)

**DMV Connect**



**Can't get to DMV? DMV is coming to You!**

## **Mount Vernon Governmental Center**

**2511 Parkers Ln Alexandria 22306**

**May 9<sup>th</sup>-May 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30am to 3:30pm**

**Appointment available at [www.dmvnow.com](http://www.dmvnow.com)**

### **Opioids and Illegal Drugs**

With **fenfentanyl** becoming more prevalent in drugs being purchased illegally - including **pills like oxycodone and valium** - the County is sharing information and resources to prevent opioid abuse. [Study released by the NIH...](#)  
[County resources and information you can use...](#)

Due to the **rise in opioid overdoses** in the Fairfax Health District, which is consistent with national and state trends, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) has partnered with Fairfax County Government to provide an **educational live webinar** on youth substance use trends and supports.

#### **Topics Include:**

- Substances used frequently by youth
- Reasons youth use substances
- What parents and adults should look for
- Available prevention/intervention supports
- How to connect with supports

The webinars are offered at the following dates from 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

- **April 26 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **April 28 at 7:00 p.m.**

[Register for Webinar](#)

For more information, contact the Office of Student Safety and Wellness at 571-423-4270.

### **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: Barriers and Bridges to Fair Housing**

In Honor of Fair Housing Month, the Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs in collaboration with the Equal Rights Center (ERC), Legal Services of Northern Virginia (LSNV), and the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors® (NVAR) is pleased to invite you to register for a **FREE fair housing webinar** on **Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 9:30-11:30 a.m.** Topics include: **Housing Discrimination Based on Source of Funds, Disability (Reasonable Accommodations), and Legal Updates-Fair Housing Laws.**

The webinar is **FREE** and there is no charge to register. [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)  
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

### **Public Meeting: Fiscal Year 2023-2028 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program**

The **Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)** will conduct a public meeting to give the community the opportunity to provide comments on **transportation projects and programs** to be included in the Fiscal Year 2023-2028 Six-Year Improvement Program (FY23-28 SYIP). These projects and programs, which include **highway, rail and public transportation initiatives**, represent important improvements to address safety,

congestion and preservation of Virginia's transportation network.

This CTB meeting as required by §33.2-214.3 code of Virginia, will serve as the **joint public meeting** for the following six agencies: the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT), the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA), the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), the Virginia Railway Express (VRE), and the newly established Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA). Each organization will have information available for review and comment related to their respective projects, evaluation, and selection criteria for funding.

The public meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 4 at the VDOT Northern Virginia (NOVA) District Office**, located at 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax. The **open house** will begin at **5:30 p.m.**, followed by a **listening session at 7:00 p.m.** Formal **public comments** on projects proposed to be included in the draft SYIP will be **accepted at the meeting and online until May 23.**

## **Regional Challenges Need Smart Solutions!**

Do you have a solution to make our **region smarter, more livable, resilient and sustainable** for all our residents? If the answer is YES, we invite you to join the **Smart Cities 2022 Challenge**. We are looking for individuals or teams to come together over a six-week period, from **May 2 – June 16, 2022**, to create innovative solution in the areas of transportation, health, water, and carbon neutrality, and we are **especially excited to see solutions from underrepresented founders.**

**Cash and in-kind prizes** will be awarded, including pilot project opportunities, participation in the Smart City Works accelerator, membership in Refraction, and Amazon Web Services credits. Prizes, including a chance to **pilot a project** with Fairfax County, will be awarded based on innovation, equity and inclusivity, practicality of application and regional impact, as outlined in the judging criteria. **Bring your solution to the table and register today!** [Learn more...](#)

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## Laurel Hill Central Green

Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 2 p.m.



**A new playground will open at Laurel Hill and you are invited to join in the fun of the opening celebration.**

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board and Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck will hold ribbon cutting ceremonies for the new playground at Laurel Hill Central Green on Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 2 p.m. Please join us for brief remarks from local officials, refreshments. The park is located at 8780 Lorton Road in Lorton, Va.

The playground is appropriate for children ages 2 to 12 years old. Features include a large spinning ADA accessible play structure, small tot play composite and a large unique play structure for children 5 to 12 years old.

For more information contact the Public Information Office at 703-342-8662.



### Laurel Hill Central Green

8780 Lorton Road  
Lorton, Va.

703-324-8563  
TTY: Va. Relay 711

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Visit our Website

Mount Vernon District Office | 703-780-7518  
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