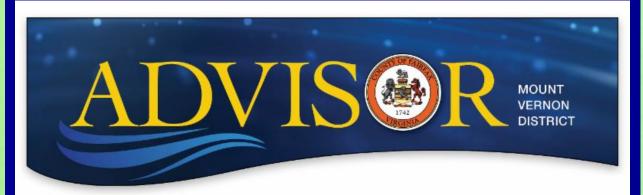
March 2021



Neighbors,

As we enter our **third month of general public COVID- 19 vaccinations**, I continue to work to get**more vaccination sites** in the Mount Vernon District. It is
unacceptable that many of our residents **have had to travel 90 minutes roundtrip** to the Government Center
to get their vaccines. I also strongly believe that we must
get **mobile vaccine clinics**, or at least **appointment**



registration outreach and support directly to our seniors, and into our lower-income and minority neighborhoods. I recognize that many are challenged not only by transportation issues, but also internet access, language barriers, vaccination safety rumors and ability to take time off work to manage all of this. Please continue to let our office know how we can help. Like you, I'm looking forward to getting vaccinated.

March brings another opportunity to **celebrate Women's History**, and again this year we have much to celebrate. From the many, many photos on social media of young girls in **"My VP Looks Like Me"** shirts, in honor of our first female, first Black and first Asian American Vice President, to the **planned ribbon cutting for the Turning Point Suffragists Memorial** this May; 2021 is shaping up to be another "Year of the Woman." See below for **Women's History celebrations** throughout the month.

I have both sad and happy news to share. First, Donna Slaymaker aka Mount Vernon Donna (MVD as we like to call her), is retiring and leaving the Route 1 corridor for her dream beach house. Over these past six years, Donna has kept our team coordinated with her friendly smile, Route 1 roots and knowledge of all that is Mount Vernon. She will be missed by TEAM MVD and the hundreds of you whom she has helped over the years with everything from "where do I vote" to "I need help, who do I call" questions. We wish Donna and her family many happy days with their feet in the sand and cool breezes in their hair!

Second, I have the pleasure of introducing you to our newest "TEAM MVD" member, Alexandra Jones. Alex is our new Office Manager and she will be working with our Tourism Task Force. If you serve on a one of our Boards, Authorities and Commissions, she will be your new contact. Alex is a Mount Vernon native and graduated from West Potomac Highs School. She enjoys traveling, hiking, kayaking and northeast style cuisine. Alex holds an M.Ed. from UVA and has taught students in grades 7-12. Her favorite places to hang out in NOVA are Old Town Alexandria, Dyke Marsh, Riverbend park and Tysons Corner! Please join me in welcoming Alex! She will be the smiling face at our front desk next time you visit and the happy voice that answers next time you call.

Respectfully yours in public service,

Our Stout

Dan StorckSupervisor, Mount Vernon District
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors



Meet Alex!

Visit our Website

Quick Links

About Supervisor Storck District Staff District Accomplishments District Representatives Boards, Authorities and Commissions Mount Vernon Advisor Archives Emergency Management Preparedness District Videos

Para **subscribirse para nuestro boletín en español** o si conoce a alguien quien quiera subscribirse, o **para hablar con un hispanohablante**, comuníquese con **Diego Rodríguez Cabrera** a su preferencia, por teléfono al (703) 619-4339 o por correo electrónico: diego.rodriguezcabrera@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Virtual Budget Town Meeting

Thank you to everyone who participated in this week's Budget Town Meeting! Did you miss the Mount Vernon Budget Town Meeting? No problem! You can still watch it here. FY 2022 Budget Q&A will be posted here. Budget public hearings will be held April 13 - 15 and information about submitting budget testimony can be found here. Read more about the budget...



Pet Adoption Corner



First, Wilcox the beagle (featured last month) was adopted!

This month we are featuring **Tiger the cat!** He and his friend Furball were **surrendered when their owner (who is 98 years old!) could no longer care for them.** We don't have a ton of information on them, but it seems like the **cats were loved and comfortable** in their last home. They **don't have to be adopted together, but could be,** if someone wanted to **adopt two cats** who already know each other. We're getting to know them a bit better here and our **volunteers are spending time with them**. Read more about Tiger, other available pets

and steps to adoption.

Women's History Month

Ways To Celebrate International Women's Day

International Women's Day is March 8, but in Fairfax County, we can't help but celebrate it every day. Everywhere you look in the County you'll find women who've changed history, preserved history, and broken all molds. America recently celebrated the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which saw the opening of the Lucy Burns Museum at the Workhouse Arts Center. And soon, a new national memorial to the suffragists will open in Lorton. Read more...





Women Warriors on the Front Lines of the Pandemic

Please join the Fairfax County Commission for Women as we celebrate Women's History Month 2021. This year, the Commission is holding a Facebook LIVE Forum to honor "Women Warriors on the Front Lines of the Pandemic" for their leadership, courage, and commitment to serving those in need across Fairfax County during this unprecedented and extraordinarily dangerous time. The event will honor the highest ranking women in the County's health, police and fire departments. The event will be hosted by our very own Mount Vernon District

Commissioner, Chair, Lisa Sales. Guests are encouraged to submit questions to our panelists in our Facebook Live comments section before or during the event. Check the website for more information soon. For those interested in learning more about the Fairfax County Commission for Women and our Women's History Month Forum, you can also find us on Twitter @fairfaxcfw, and on Facebook and Instagram as @commissionforwomen.

Upcoming In-Person & Virtual Events

- Mar: Quantico Noise Advisories
- Mar 6: Archaeological Symposium: Hidden Histories 10 a.m.
- Mar 6: Save the Trees/Friends of Dyke Marsh noon
- Mar 8: International Women's Day
- Mar 9: Employment Rights and Obligations During COVID-19 3 p.m.
- Mar 9: South County Federation Meeting 7 p.m.
- Mar 15: VDOT Paving & Restriping Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 15: Women Warriors on the Front Lines of the Pandemic 7 p.m.
- Mar 20: Save the Trees/Friends of Dyke Marsh noon
- Mar 24: Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting 7 p.m.

Land Use

SSPA Process Continues

The **Implementation Phase** of the 2019-2020 South County Site Specific Plan Amendment (SSPA) process is **about to begin**. On January 26, the Board of Supervisors adopted the **2021 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program** that included amendments originating from the Screening Phase of the 2019-2020 SSPA process.

The Mount Vernon District SSPA Plan amendments authorized on the 2021 Work Program are described here. More information on each of the amendments can be found by visiting the listed webpage. Two of the amendments, 2806 Popkins Lane and 2550 Huntington Avenue will follow an Expedited Track with a kick-off meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 16 (schedule in link). Two amendments, Mount Vernon Highway between Hybla Valley/Gum Springs and South County Center CBCs; and the Huntington Metro Station will follow the Standard Track schedule that will commence in June of this year. The review of a third amendment, the SNA between South County Center and Woodlawn CBCs (Engleside Trailer Park/Ray's Mobile Home Colony) will begin after the recommendations of the Affordable Housing

Preservation Task Force are presented to the Board of Supervisors, and any subsequent policy work is completed. The review of this amendment is anticipated to begin **no earlier than the end of this year**. Read more about the specific projects and timeline...

Transportation



2021 Paving and Restriping Program

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)'s Northern Virginia Paving Program **improves hundreds of miles of roads** in the County every year. VDOT and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation FCDOT) use this program as an opportunity to **increase driver**, **bicyclist and pedestrian safety** with road and crosswalk improvements while **minimizing the financial investment** in restriping work. FCDOT will **post proposed**

improvements for every district in advance of each meeting. The Mount Vernon District meeting will be held virtually on Monday, March 15 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Meeting information and proposed projects will be posted here...

Your Voice Matters! Help Shape the Future of Active Transportation in Fairfax County

Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT), in collaboration with regional, county and community partners, is continuing to address the transportation of all users with the launch of the ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan development and community engagement effort. Active transportation means self-propelled, human-powered travel including walking, biking, rolling (scooter/wheelchair/stroller), hiking, running and riding. The ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan will establish a vision and a roadmap for implementation of safe, convenient, and enjoyable streets, sidewalks, bike facilities, and trails in the County. The survey is available in multiple languages...

Health, Housing & Human Services

Employment Rights and Obligations During COVID-19

The Fairfax County Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs (OHREP) will hold a joint webinar "Employment Rights and Obligations During COVID-19" on Tuesday, March 9, from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. During the webinar, representatives from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will provide updated pandemic guidance for employers and employees and discuss how vaccination status will affect the workplace. The webinar is free and there is no charge to attend. Learn more...

2021 Fair Housing Art & Literary Contest

The Fairfax County Student Human Rights Commission (SHRC) holds this annual art and literary contest to create awareness among high school students of fair housing issues and laws and to promote the importance of providing equal housing opportunities for all. This yearly contest is open to all FCPS high school students. The entries are judged by category and the winner for each category receives a \$300 prize. Students may participate by submitting artwork or a written work based on the year's theme. This year's theme is "Home Knows No Distance." Contest entries must be postmarked by March 19, 2021. The prize is co-sponsored by the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors®. Winners will be recognized at the Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs' Annual Fair Housing Month event in April 2021. Learn more...

Community Outreach

Fairfax Water's Deadline for the COVID-19 Municipal Utility Relief Program Extended

Do you need help paying your Fairfax Water bill? Eligible residents can apply for assistance through the COVID-19 Municipal Utility Relief Program through Dec. 1, 2021. Residents are encouraged to apply soon as CARES Act funds will only be available until all funds have



been exhausted. To provide **financial relief for customers in need**, Fairfax Water is working with Fairfax County, the City of Falls Church and the City of Fairfax to administer funds received from the Commonwealth of Virginia's COVID-19 Municipal Utility Relief Program. Read more...

Parks & Environment



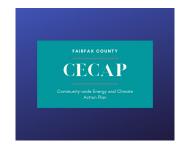
Plastic Bags No Longer Acceptable for Yard Waste

Joining several neighboring communities in the D.C. Metro Area, the County now prohibits the use of plastic bags for **set out and collection of yard waste**. The change is in effect as of **Monday, March 1** and requires County residents who have curbside collection of yard waste to use **reusable containers**

or paper yard waste bags to set out grass, leaves and brush. Although the new rule takes effect March 1, the Solid Waste Management Program will be **exercising enforcement discretion** for a six-week period to allow time for customer notification and education on the new rule. **Enforcement will begin Monday, April 19, 2021.** Read more...

Climate Action Surveys - WE NEED YOU!

Not one, not two, but three brief surveys are now online to capture your feedback on climate planning. The County is developing its first-ever Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan, or CECAP, and is seeking public input to inform the goals, strategies and actions the plan will include. Now through March 14, you can complete very short surveys on energy issues, transportation, development and waste issues, and on climate planning in general.



Can you spare **five minutes to share your opinion**? It will help build a plan that works for you and the **rest of our community for years to come**. Take the surveys here...

In the News

Alexandria 2050 Series: The Past is Prologue to Vibrant Times Ahead

If the past is prologue to the future, then **vibrant times will continue for many decades** to come! Just looking at **how much has changed since 1990** from Old Town to the Eisenhower Valley and Huntington to the Richmond Highway Corridor, it is very **exciting to think about the Alexandria area in 2050**. Read more in Alexandria Living...



Richmond Highway Corridor Market Assessment Study Presented

Recently, a **market assessment study of the Richmond Highway corridor** was presented to Fairfax County's Economic



Advisory Commission. The study by the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority looked at the pipeline for retail, office, hotel and residential development and long-term land-use plans in the corridor. It also considered effects of the Embark Richmond Highway initiative and major employment announcements such as Amazon on residential and commercial development. Read more on the Patch...

Mount Vernon's River Farm Offer Falls Short of Asking Price

In an attempt to keep the property open to the public, the NOVA Parks, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, and their partners recently made an offer to buy River Farm in Mount Vernon, but the American Horticultural Society board of directors has voted to decline their offer, looking for their original asking price of \$32,900,000 that they



say they need to keep the society in operation. Read more in the Mount Vernon Gazette...



Lofty Progress for Lorton Community Center

Steel beams now rise high in the sky dwarfing the former Lorton Library on Richmond Highway. As we welcome Spring, **construction of the new Lorton Library and Community Center**, at the site of the existing facilities, has made noticeable progress and

is **about one year away from its projected completion** in Spring 2022. Read more in the Connection...

Community Information

Public Libraries Now Offers Chromebook Laptops for Two-Week Check-Outs

Fairfax County Public Library is pleased to **offer Chromebook computers for borrowing** by the public. Learn more... Chromebooks can be checked out by **customers 18 and older** from the following branches:

- Centreville Regional Library
- George Mason Regional Library
- Reston Regional Library
- Sherwood Regional Library

County Libraries to Re-open Interior Express Services

All Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) locations will re-open for **interior Express Services on Monday, March 22**. Most facets of **previous services** will remain the same with a **few minor updates**:

- Customers will be able to **visit FCPL branches for up to 30 minutes**, on Monday and Tuesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Curbside pickup of materials** on hold will remain available to customers Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Capacity limits will be in place: up to **30 members of the public at a time** may be in community branches and up to 60 may be in regional branches.
- Library programming will remain virtual and meeting rooms will remain closed at this time.
- **Ask Your Library** via the website and text messaging will continue to be available 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Please do not visit a branch if you have COVID-19 symptoms, have been exposed to someone who tested positive or are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- FCPL will continue to offer robust virtual programming for all ages, which can be found on our YouTube channel and Facebook page. Learn about the top 10 ways to access FCPL resources at home.





Save River Farm

This **beloved community gathering space** that encompasses **27 acres of open space**, gardens and historic home along the Potomac River **need our help!** The American Horticultural Society has **listed it for sale** on the open market.

UPDATE: The American Horticultural Society (AHS) has **declined the purchase proposal** submitted by the

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) and the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT) to buy River Farm. While disappointing, it is unsurprising. We all (private, county, regional, state and federal leaders) remain committed to working with AHS to find a way to preserve this beautiful piece of history nestled within the Mount Vernon community. I, personally, see this as a next step in the negotiating process, as you would find with any real estate sale. Read more in this week's Update...

Join us today by **visiting Save River Farm** to learn more, sign the petition, **make a donation** and more!

Archaeology Symposium: Hidden Histories March 6 @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm FREE

Stories are **lost to time** for many reasons. They do not get written down, accounts get lost, **artifacts disappear**, buildings are torn down, oral tradition forgets them, the landscape has changed. **Archaeology can help!**



Join **Gunston Hall on for four presentations** that bring to light **stories long hidden from sight**. From **shipwrecks to enslaved people** who left little written record, to structures long gone, to stories simply forgotten, there is **something for everyone** in this program! **Learn more...**



March Wellness Activities Calendar

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board's Wellness, Health Promotion & Prevention team focuses on ways to strengthen our community's emotional health and ability to handle challenges related to mental health concerns and substance misuse. This month the team is focusing on making March meaningful. We highlight National Self-Harm Awareness Month, National Nutrition Month, Sleep Awareness Week, and National Poison Prevention Week. We

encourage the community to learn more about mental health and preventing suicide. The community can download the myStrength app and **explore** some of what is highlighted this month. Learn more...

Things to Do in April

Time is flying by, and we're already headed into March - which means spring is upon us. Bring on the blooming flowers, green grass, singing birds, and sunshine! Warm weather brings a myriad of events and activities to enjoy in Fairfax County. Here is your go-to-guide for things to do this month...



Be sure to continue to **maintain social distancing guidelines** and always **double-check event and location information** prior to arriving.

Pocket Dad Fatherhood Video: Controlling the Climate in Your Home



Supporting Our Seniors

Have You Visited the Virtual Center for Active Adults?

The VCAA was established to enrich the lives of older adults and adults with disabilities in the County while combatting isolation. Created with the support of over 20 partner organizations, the VCAA serves as a one-stop resource for events, programs and services for older adults. The VCAA offers over 40 virtual events, programs



and classes **each week using Zoom**. Explore a full schedule of **social, creative and cognitive programs** as well as health and fitness classes ranging from low to high intensity and spanning a **variety of interests and goals**. Visit the VCAA...

Recognize The Signs Of Stroke - And F-A-S-T!

Unfortunately, **strokes do happen**. It is important that you and your loved ones know and **recognize the warning signs** of a stroke as every second counts! Please take a moment to **review the linked video** from the American Heart Association.

In addition to the **F.A.S.T. signs highlighted** in the video, **other symptoms may appear**, separately, in combination or with F.A.S.T. signs. Read more and watch the video...

Senior Citizen Tax Relief Workshops 2021

Although in-person workshops will not be held for tax year 2021 because of the ongoing health risks caused by COVID-19, the Department of Tax Administration mailed applications to residents in January, which asked residents to sign an affidavit to certify they still are within the program threshold (short form), and return it to DTA. The preferred methods to return completed applications are listed on the application: E-mail at TaxRelief@fairfaxcounty.gov, by fax at 703-802-7595, or first-class mail to: Department of Tax Administration, ATTN: Tax Relief Section, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 225.5, Fairfax, VA 22035-0032. Residents in the program also received a letter with their application that included additional methods available to discuss their application with DTA staff, which include virtual meetings by Zoom video conferencing, and by telephone (703-222-8234; TTY 711). Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications. Qualified residents also may be eligible for car tax and rent relief. For more information, visit, or call 703-222-8234; TTY 703-222-7594.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

More Vaccine Registration FAQs: Supply Update and The Best Vaccine is the One That is Available

New Online Tool Available to Remove Yourself from COVID-19 Registration Waitlist

What You Need to Know About the Johnson & Johnson Vaccine

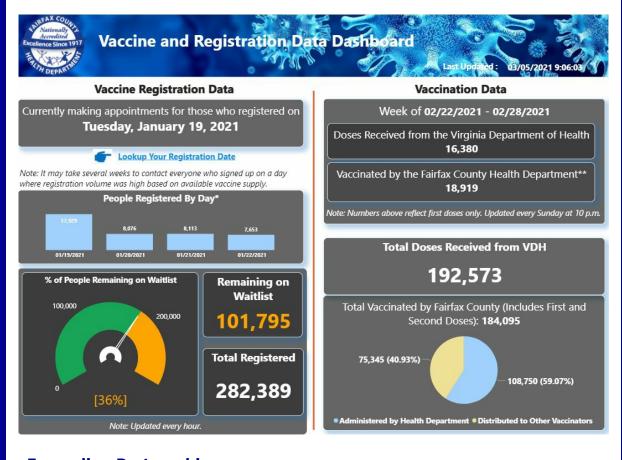
Need Help Getting to Your COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment? View Several Transportation Options

What You Need to Know About Free Vaccine, Health Insurance and Admin Fees

Understanding the Dates on Your COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card

Vaccines

We continue to make major strides in vaccinating our residents. As of today at 9 a.m., 282,389 individuals have registered with the County, and 101,795 remain on the waiting list. This means, hopefully in the near term, we can open up registration to more people (qualified under state guidelines). On Monday, the Health Department finished sending first-dose invitations to individuals who registered on our highest sign-up day, January 18. This is a significant milestone, due to the limited supply of vaccine as well as the large number of registrants (42,000+) from that day. As you'll see on our dashboard, we've moved on to scheduling the 17,929 individuals who registered on January 19. While this is certainly progress, I can't stress enough that patience is still needed as we fight the pandemic. View the dashboard and more information...



Expanding Partnerships

New Giant sites added. Giant will be working from the County's registration list, please do not show up at these locations without an appointment. We hope to add more locations soon.

- 7501 Huntsman Boulevard, Springfield
- 6364A Springfield Plaza, Springfield
- 5740 Union Mill Road, Clifton
- 5870 Kingstowne Boulevard, Alexandria
- 3480 S. Jefferson Street, Falls Church
- 7137 Columbia Pike, Annandale
- 2425 Centreville Road, Herndon
- 6200 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria

Need Help Getting to Your Appointment?

Fairfax County has been working hard to **identify a number of options for residents** who **need assistance getting to their COVID-19 vaccination appointments**. We've published a list of community partners who provide transportation assistance to older adults. The County is also providing **free rides via taxi companies** to anyone who **does**

not have access to their own transportation. To schedule your vaccine transportation, **call the Health Department Call Center at 703-324-7404**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Please only sign up for these services** once your vaccination appointment has been scheduled.

Health & Human Services Committee Update

Our Board's Health and Human Services Committee met this week to discuss our **vaccination efforts and to hear from the Health Department**. You can view the two presentations we received:

COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Strategy COVID-19 Vaccine Update

I know that the demand for the **COVID-19 vaccine is still outpacing our supply** from the state. However, as you'll see in the second presentation, we did receive some **good news**, especially for our **residents in long-term care facilities**. In Fairfax County, **85.9% of these residents and staff** have now been vaccinated. The CDC reported national figures show that that number is only 52.5% nationwide. These **vaccination numbers are very encouraging** in Fairfax County for this nationwide vulnerable population.

Important Safety Information

Carbon Monoxide: Colorless And Odorless Killer

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a **colorless, odorless and tasteless gas**. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), **each year more than 400 Americans die** from unintentional CO poisoning not linked to fires, **more than 20,000 visit the emergency room** and more than 4,000 are hospitalized.

CO combines with hemoglobin in our blood and robs the blood of the oxygen our body needs. Early symptoms of exposure are similar to the flu and include headache, fatigue, nausea and confused thinking (so victims cannot think clearly enough to get assistance). Without treatment, the victim will lose consciousness, and if no help is given will lose their life. Read more...

March OEM Newsletter

Team MVD



Mount Vernon District Staff (clockwise): Alex Jones, Nick Rinehart, Christine Morin, Volunteer Shirley Short, Camela Speer, Supervisor Dan Storck, Abdul Shaban, Diego Rodriguez Cabrera.

February 2021 Activities:

Phone calls: 1276Meetings: 299

Stay Connected:

Mount Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane Mount Vernon, VA 22306 703-780-7518 (TTY 711) 703-780-1491 (fax) mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov

Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Second Saturday Each Month (except

August)

MV District Office: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Walk-ins and by appointment

Boards, Authorities and Commissions

Help **serve your community** by serving on a Fairfax County Board, Authority or Commission (BAC). Please ask your friends, neighbors and community members if they are willing to help serve Fairfax County.

A. Heath Onthank Award Selection Committee

The Committee serves to grant recognition for accomplishment of outstanding worth in advancing and improving public service in County by merit system employees. One year term with generally one meeting each spring.

Advisory Social Services Board

To interest itself in all matters pertaining to the social welfare of the people served by the government; to monitor the formulation and implementation of social welfare programs; to meet with the Director of Social Services at least four times a year for the purpose of making recommendations on policy matters; to make an annual report to the governing body concerning the administration of the public welfare program; and to submit to the governing body other reports that the advisory body deems appropriate.

There are **several At-Large positions** available as of December 2020 on County BACs.

- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Engineer/Architect Rep)
- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Lending Institution Rep)
- Alcohol Safety Action Program Local Policy Board (ASAP)
- Board of Building and Fire Prevention Code Appeals (Design Professional)
- Civil Service Commission
- Engineering Standard Review Committee
- Celebrate Fairfax
- History Commission (Historian)

- Road Viewer Board
- Tenant Landlord Commission (3 openings Citizen Member, Condo Owner, Landlord Member & Tenant Member)

Learn more about these BACs...

Volunteering on these committees **increases citizen participation in our District**. If you are interested in serving on a county board, authority, commission, or committee (BAC), please provide a current résumé to Alexandra. Jones@fairfaxcounty.gov. For more information, please download the brochure for a brief guide to BACs, or learn more on the County website. You can also **check out the County's Volunteer Management System for information** on these and **other volunteer opportunities near you**.

Visit our website

Mount Vernon District Office | 703-780-7518 MTVernon@fairfaxcounty.gov | FairfaxCounty.gov/MountVernon

STAY CONNECTED





