



Mount Vernon Advisor BoS BRIEF

May 2, 2018

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The following are **highlights from the Board of Supervisors meeting held on May 1, 2018**. We have included items of particular interest to Mount Vernon residents. For additional information, please go to the County's [Board Agenda and Meeting Schedule section on the County's website](#). You may listen to [highlights from the Board meeting on your computer](#) or listen directly on iTunes. Subscribe to the podcast, or choose a program and listen in.

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR STORCK

Public engagement was key to the FY 2019 Budget process. I appreciate the thousands of Fairfax residents who took the time to share their support or concerns for this year's Budget. Whether in writing, in person, by video or by phone, your input has shaped the final FY 2019 Budget.

The Budget is based on a tax rate of \$1.15 per \$100 in assessed value. It includes:

- **Fully funding the School Board's request**, bringing teachers' salaries into competitive alignment with our nearby jurisdictions in the region;
- An **increase of \$91.49 million**, or 4.22%, over FY 2018 in **overall support for our school system**, with 52.8% of our General Fund Budget going to schools; in addition to capital funding, and providing before and after school care, health and police services.
- **Fully funding compensation for County employees** with a 2.25% Market Rate Adjustment, Performance, Merit and Longevity increases;
- **New funding for the coming South County Police Station**, Fairfax First and gang prevention efforts;
- Additional funding for mental health initiative **Diversion First, Early Childhood programs**, and responses to the **Opioid Crisis**;
- Funding increases for Metro, VRE and the Connector Bus System.

Through identified savings in the original County Executive's proposed FY 2019 Budget and anticipated additional State funding for our schools, we were able to **lower the proposed real estate tax increase from 2.5 cents to 2 cents**. I believe the FY 2019 Budget strikes the right **balance between keeping taxes affordable for our residents and maintaining the high quality services** for which our County is known. I am grateful that we were able to identify ways to lower the proposed tax burden on our residents, however, I recognize that we still must do more. **I am committed to doing so.**

With planning beginning for our next budget, FY 2020, we **adopted guidelines** to ensure we conduct a thorough, targeted **Line of Business review** of the current County budget to **secure new cost savings**. This process, along with the development and adoption of a **County strategic plan**, will be critical to prioritizing our needs and balancing our resources more effectively.

The School Board needs to also undertake a similar process to identify efficiencies and cost savings. We all agree it is necessary to continue to **expand our early childhood education services, competitively compensate teachers, reduce school trailers and support school renovation needs**. The challenge is how to pay for them.

This year, the Board of Supervisors will also review options to **update the County employee defined retirement benefit plan** to offer more flexibility for new hires, while maintaining existing retirement plans for current employees. Additionally, we will be looking at the **public safety sector compensation issues** and assessing the benefits to cost of initiatives such as **body-worn cameras**.

As you may know, the required regional **Metro funding increases will have a \$100 million negative impact on funding our current roadway and transit improvement needs**. A serious review of this

year's new funding for Metro must be done. **We need to secure more State funding, or our Richmond Highway improvement funding could be set back years!**

As I have said before, it is concerning and frustrating that the County needs to increase the only tax base it controls as a result of **underfunding from the State**. Did you know that the **State returns to us only 23%** of what Fairfax County residents contribute in State taxes? Every one cent increase in what the State returns to us would generate over **\$35 million in additional funding for the County**. In addition, if the State provided per student education funding at just what it was 10 years ago, **this year's tax increase would be unnecessary!**

Top 3 Things You Need to Know from the BOS Meeting:

1. Board adopted the **FY 2019 Budget Plan**.
2. Board approved **"\$200 Additional Fine for Speeding" signs** for the Residential Traffic Administration Program on **Potomac Avenue** from Belle Haven Road to Belle View Road.
3. Board recognized the **185th anniversary of the Gum Springs Community**.

The Board also designated:



May 2018 as Foster Care Awareness Month

May 2018 as Older Americans and Adult Abuse Prevention Month



May 2018 as Break the Silence on Ovarian Cancer Month



May 6 - 12, 2018 as Child Care Professionals Week



May 7 - 11, 2018 as Teacher Appreciation Week

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

To view the May 1, 2018 Board Package [click here](#).

Admin 2: Board approved **"\$200 Additional Fine for Speeding" signs** for the Residential Traffic Administration Program on **Potomac Avenue** from Belle Haven Road to Belle View Road. *The full item can be read on pages 10 - 17 of the Board Package.*

ACTION ITEMS

Action 2: The Board approved **\$200,000** from the Economic Development Support Fund (EDSF) for implementation of the **Economic Success Strategic Plan (ESSP)**. The ESSP **envision an economically strong and sustainable County** and focuses on four fundamental themes: People, Places, Employment, and Governance. This funding will provide opportunities to **invest in various pilots, placemaking initiatives, and events that test new ideas, grow the innovation ecosystem, and educate our residents and partners**. *The full item can be read on pages 30 - 41 of the Board Packet.*

Action 3: The Board approved an amendment to the Agreement for the Sale, Delivery, and **Use of Reclaimed Water** (Reuse Agreement) between the County and the Park Authority for the delivery and use of reclaimed water from the **Noman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant at the Laurel Hill Golf Course (LHGC)**. Currently, the use of Reclaimed Water at LHGC has been limited to approximately 2 million gallons per year or approximately \$4,000 per year. With the amendment and proposed operational changes, it is estimated that the annual water use will **increase to approximately 10 million gallons per year or approximately \$20,000 year**. *The full item can be read on pages 42 - 52 of the Board Packet.*

Action 4: The Board approved comments on the **scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Maryland's Capital Beltway (I-495) Managed Lanes Study**. Key comments include:

- the importance of this study to Fairfax County;
- the urgency of **improving capacity at the American Legion Bridge**;
- the need for **coordination with Fairfax County**, in addition to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), as the study progresses;
- the need for the traffic study to consider **impacts to roads that are proximate to the Beltway** in Fairfax County, such as Georgetown Pike; and
- the need to consider any impacts to the **Scotts Run Nature Preserve**.

The full item can be read on pages 53 - 59 of the Board Package.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Information Item 1: The Board received an update on the proposed contract awards for **Consolidated Community Funding Pool** for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020. The **Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee** received 168 applications totaling \$22,721,599 in FY 2019 requests (nearly twice the amount of funds available) and \$22,803,636 in FY 2020 requests. An all-voluntary Selection Advisory Committee (SAC) evaluated and ranked all proposals, recommending **full or partial funding in FY 2019 for 116 proposals totaling \$13,149,488** and also made recommendations for FY 2020. The Community Action Advisory Board, which oversees the final allocation of Community Services Block Grant funds, **will meet on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 to identify FY 2019 and FY 2020 proposals** recommended by the SAC that fit within policy requirements for state and federal funding. *A full list of proposed grant recipients can be found in the full item on pages 60 - 188 of the Board Package.*

BOARD MATTERS

Joint Board Matter with Chairman Sharon Bulova: Request for a Proclamation on the 185th Anniversary of the Establishment of Gum Springs

Established in 1833, **Gum Springs is the oldest African American community in Fairfax, VA. Founded by slaves freed** after the passing of Martha Washington, and under the **leadership of freed slave West Ford**, the community of Free Blacks was constructed along the banks of the Potomac River near Alexandria and Mount Vernon. Gum Springs soon became a **refuge and home to other freed and runaway slaves**, and its economy thrived with assistance from neighboring Quakers.

Today, Gum Springs remains a **cohesive and predominantly black community of more than 2,500 residents**, with as many as **500 descendants of the original families**. The Gum Springs Historical Society's Museum and Cultural Center was founded to celebrate and preserve this historic community's artifacts, photographs and information on the residents and founding families of Gum Springs.

Gum Springs will celebrate 185 years of its founding on **Saturday, June 16, 2018**, with the **Gum Springs Community Day and Parade**.

Action

Directed the Office of Public Affairs prepare a proclamation commending and congratulating the citizens of Gum Springs on their 185th anniversary.

[Click here](#) to read the full Board Matter.

PUBLIC HEARINGS THAT IMPACT THE MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

Public Hearing on Proposed Plan Amendment 2017-IV-MV1 - Sky View Drive

The Board approved a Plan Amendment to allow an option for residential use up to 13 dwelling units per acre at 8419 and 8423 Sky View Drive, consistent with the neighboring Skyview Park subdivision.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[New Lorton Community Center - Coming in 2022!](#)

Join us on Thursday, May 3 from 7:30 –9:00 p.m. for a community meeting regarding the planning and design. Fairfax County staff will present the project and answer questions from the community.

Thursday, May 3
7:30 to 9 PM
NEW LOCATION! Moose Lodge
9612 Fernedge Lane, Lorton

To arrange for translation services, childcare and transportation from the Lorton Library, please contact Maria Franco-Nativi at 703-704-6700, TTY 711, or by e-mail at maria.franco-nativi@fairfaxcounty.gov.

[For more information on the project...](#)

[Meeting Flyer...](#)

[Project Flyer...](#)

[Preparedness Awareness Weekend](#)

Saturday, May 5 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Gum Springs Community Center

[2018 Hope & Health Festival](#)

Saturday, May 5 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Park at Lorton Community Action Center

[Bucknell Manor Park Playground Ribbon Cutting](#)

Sunday, May 6 at 5 p.m.
Bucknell Manor Park

[Mount Vernon RECenter Expansion/Renovation Meeting](#)

Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 6 p.m.
Mount Vernon RECenter

SAVE THE DATE!

[Mount Vernon Voice Community Celebration](#)

Monday, May 14 from 6 - 8 p.m.
Mount Vernon Governmental Center

[Click here](#) for more information and to RSVP.

