

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee – November 26, 2019
Conference Room 11

Board of Supervisors Members Present:

Sharon Bulova, Chairman
Penelope Gross, Mason District (Vice Chairman)
Jeff McKay, Lee District (Committee Chair)
John Cook, Braddock District
John Foust, Dranesville District
Pat Herrity, Springfield District
Catherine Hudgins, Hunter Mill District
Kathy Smith, Sully District
Linda Smyth, Providence District
Dan Storck, Mount Vernon District

Meeting Agenda

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/sites/boardofsupervisors/files/assets/meeting-materials/2019/nov26-legislative-agenda-final.pdf>

Meeting Materials

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/board-supervisors-legislative-committee-meeting-nov-26-2019>

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Summary of Discussion:

Draft Recommended Strategies and Principles for the 116th Congress

The Legislative Committee received an update from Nancy Prowitt, President and Chief Operating Officer, Alcalde and Fay, on a number of federal items including the budget.

The Committee directed staff to clearly note the County's position on low income housing tax credits, and monitor related legislation.

Overview of the U.S. Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763)

As directed at the September 17 Legislative Committee meeting, staff provided an update on H.R. 763, including more detailed analysis of the legislation. The Committee also received information on other pending legislation relating to climate change, including the *100% Clean Economy Act of 2019* (H.R. 5221), which was introduced by Representative McEachin with over 150 original co-sponsors, including Representatives Beyer, Connolly, and Wexton. Staff indicated that H.R. 5221 appears to be a promising approach for combating climate change, and will provide additional information as it becomes available. The Committee concurred with staff's recommendation to

strengthen the “Energy/Climate Change” position by adding language to the existing principles and forming a new position statement, and directed to staff to include specific language in support of carbon pricing as a tool to address climate change. The Committee also directed staff to thoroughly review H.R. 5221 once the full text becomes available. Additionally, committee members directed staff to provide information about the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee’s analysis of this issue.

Board of Supervisors 2020 Draft Legislative Program

The Committee reviewed the following items:

- Priorities
 - Funding Core Services – Transportation Funding
- Position Statements
 - Funding – Courts
 - Human Services – Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention
 - Human Services – Substance Use Disorder
 - Public Safety – Driving Safety
- Draft 2020 Budget Fact Sheet
- Draft 2020 Transportation Fact Sheet

Board of Supervisors 2020 Human Services Issue Paper

The Committee reviewed the following items:

- Priorities
 - Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention
 - Substance Use Disorder
- Position Statements
 - Emergency Responsiveness
- Human Services Fact Sheet

Items for Initial Consideration

The Committee reviewed the following items and took the actions indicated below:

- Human Services – Pediatric Mental Health Access
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to continue monitoring the Commonwealth’s implementation of the Virginia Mental Health Access Program, and bring any related budget items that are considered by the 2020 General Assembly (GA) back to Legislative Committee for consideration.

- Personnel – Paid Family and Medical Leave
 - The Legislative Committee directed staff to add a position statement in support of paid family and medical leave to the legislative program, to monitor for the introduction of legislation during the GA session; and, to bring related bills back to Legislative Committee for consideration.
- Public Safety – Marijuana Decriminalization
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to continue to analyze the potential impacts of marijuana decriminalization on County operations, programs, and residents to prepare for Board consideration of legislation on this topic at Legislative Committee during the 2020 GA. The Committee also directed staff to bring legislation related to marijuana legalization back to the Legislative Committee as well.

Items for Further Consideration

The Committee reviewed the following items and took the actions indicated below:

- Environment – Vehicle Emissions Standards
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to monitor the issue, including opportunities for public comment, and provide updates to the Board of Supervisors as they become available. Following the federal government’s issuance of the One National Program rule, the Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC), which originally submitted this item, recommended that the Board refrain from promoting legislation related to the California standards in the upcoming GA session.
- Housing – Adding Protected Classes to the Virginia Fair Housing Law – Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to initiate legislation to permit the County to prohibit discrimination in the areas of housing, real estate transactions, employment, public accommodations, credit, and education on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Housing – Adding Protected Classes to the Virginia Fair Housing Law – Source of Income
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to monitor for the introduction of legislation and bring related bills back to the Committee for consideration.
- Procurement – Best value definition
 - The Legislative Committee directed staff to monitor for the introduction of legislation and bring related bills back to the Committee for consideration.
- Public Safety – Criminal Sentencing Reductions
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to bring legislation addressing gun violence introduced during the 2020 GA session to Legislative Committee for consideration, including bills addressing this particular issue.

K-12 and Higher Education Trends in Virginia

The Legislative Committee received copies of a presentation prepared by Virginia Senate Finance Committee staff on K-12 and higher education trends in Virginia, including K-12 Standards of Quality rebenchmarking and outlook for the 2020 GA session.

Report of the Body Worn Camera Workgroup

The Legislative Committee received copies of a report from the Body Worn Camera Workgroup on the Workgroup's study of the workload impact, as well as other fiscal and policy impacts, on the Commonwealth's public safety and judicial agencies from the use of body worn cameras.

Transportation Financing: Decade of Difference

The Legislative Committee received copies of a presentation prepared by Senate Finance Committee staff on transportation financing.

Update on Key Finance Issues

The Legislative Committee received copies of a presentation prepared by Virginia Association of Counties staff on key finance issues facing Virginia localities, including cigarette taxes, body worn cameras, standards of care in local and regional jails, and Community Services Board funding issues.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Votes Taken: None

Prepared by Arielle McAloon, Legislative Associate