

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee – October 8, 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/oct08-legislative-agenda-final.pdf>

Meeting Materials

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/board-supervisors-legislative-committee-meeting-oct-8-2019>

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.

Summary of Discussion:

Board of Supervisors 2020 Draft Legislative Program

The Committee reviewed the following items:

- Priorities
 - Funding Core Services – K-12 Funding
 - Funding Core Services – Regional Transportation Funding
 - Funding Core Services – Transportation Funding
 - The Legislative Committee directed staff to add language relating to the Long Bridge project, and the need to avoid future diversion of funding from existing transportation projects. Committee members also directed staff to discuss this issue with the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo), and consider adding language on this topic to VACo’s legislative program.
- Initiatives/Action Statements
 - Personnel – Addition of Member to the Police Officers Retirement System (PORS) Board of Trustees

- Personnel – PORS Purchase of Membership Service Credit
- Position Statements
 - Environment – Reducing Environmental Contamination from Plastic and Paper Bags
 - Funding – Courts
 - The Legislative Committee directed staff to further strengthen the language relating to state funding for court personnel.
 - Funding – Jails
 - General Laws – Elections
 - Public Safety – Accessibility
 - Public Safety – Dangerous Weapons

Opportunity Zones

The Legislative Committee received an update on opportunity zones, with staff noting that there are some questions relating to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations, and additional clarification may be needed. The Committee directed staff to keep the Board of Supervisors apprised of future developments, so the Board can consider weighing in to get clarification on IRS guidelines. The Committee also directed staff to provide the Board with a brochure on opportunity zones that could be shared with community revitalization groups and investors.

Board of Supervisors 2020 Human Services Issue Paper

The Committee reviewed the following items:

- Introduction
- Priorities
 - Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention
 - Mental Health, Public Safety, and the Criminal Justice System
 - Substance Use Disorder
 - The Legislative Committee directed staff to strengthen the language relating to vaping.
- Position Statements
 - Medicaid Waivers
 - Children and Families – Child Care Services
 - Children and Families – Early Intervention Services for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities/Part C
 - Children and Families – School Readiness
 - Children and Families – Youth Safety
 - Older Adults and People with Disabilities – Disability Services Board (DSB)
 - Older Adults and People with Disabilities – Independence and Self-Sufficiency for Older Adults and People with Disabilities
 - Older Adults and People with Disabilities – Accessibility
 - Older Adults and People with Disabilities – Brain Injury

- Health, Well Being, and Safety – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Health, Well Being, and Safety – Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Behavioral Health – STEP-VA
- Behavioral Health – Emergency Responsiveness
- Behavioral Health – Services for Transitional Youth

Items for Initial Consideration

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

- Environment – Energy Efficiency
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to add support specifically for an energy efficiency resource standard, and efficiency first legislation, to the existing Global Climate Change/Environmental Sustainability Initiatives position statement in the legislative program, to identify specific actions the General Assembly (GA) can take on energy efficiency. The Legislative Committee also concurred with the staff recommendation to bring relevant legislation introduced during the 2020 GA back to Legislative Committee for consideration by the Board of Supervisors.
- Environment – Vehicle Emissions Standards
 - The Legislative Committee generally concurred with the staff recommendation to monitor this issue, including opportunities for public comment, and provide updates to the Board of Supervisors as they become available, but also directed staff to report back to the Legislative Committee on how Virginia adopting the California Low Emissions Vehicle (LEV) and Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) standards would affect the local business community. The Committee also directed staff to follow up with the Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) to determine whether they continue to support the inclusion of a position statement in the legislative program, given that their initial proposal was submitted before the final federal preemption rule was issued. Lastly, the Legislative Committee directed staff to bring this item back to the Committee for further consideration in advance of the Board’s adoption of the 2020 legislative program.
- Public Safety – Criminal Sentencing Reductions
 - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to reach out to stakeholders and gather relevant data to assess how this proposal would be utilized in Fairfax County, and directed staff to report back on the Virginia State Crime Commission’s discussion of gun violence later this fall.

Virginia’s K-12 Funding and Re-benchmarking Process, and School Security

The Legislative Committee received copies of a presentation prepared by Jim Regimbal, Fiscal Analytics, Ltd., which provides an overview of the K-12 re-benchmarking process and Standards

of Quality policy revisions under consideration by the Virginia Board of Education, and school security funding changes adopted by the 2019 GA.

Draft Regional Letter on Cost-of-Competing Adjustment for School Support Positions and Restoration of Funding to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa)

The Legislative Committee received copies of a draft letter to Governor Ralph Northam detailing the Northern Virginia region's budget priorities. Because the letter is consistent with the County's existing legislative positions, additional Board authorization for the Chairman to sign the letter is not necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Votes Taken: None

Prepared by Arielle McAloon, Legislative Associate